

ANNUAL REPORT TOWN OF EASTON 2007



STAFF SERGEANT WILLIAM J. CALLAHAN, USMC

Staff Sergeant William (Billy) J. Callahan, 28, of Easton was born August 15, 1978 and joined the United States Marine Corps September 30, 1997. On April 27, 2007 he was killed in the line of duty in Al Anbar province, Iraq while attempting to disarm a roadside bomb. He is survived by his wife Amy Callahan and his son Daniel Allen.

After graduating from Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island February, 1998 he attended Rifleman training at Marine School of Infantry East at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, becoming the "Honor Grad" and was meritoriously promoted to Private First Class. Callahan immediately checked into 1/25 Marines, A Co in April of 1998 and deployed to Japan for Jungle Warfare Training in August, 1999. During his tour in the Reserves, he was the Toys for Tots Coordinator and was a member of the Color Guard. During the summer of 2001 he attended Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Defense Specialist (NBC) School and conducted a training operation in Canada, resulting in being awarded the Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal. Due to his leadership skills, Callahan was appointed Corporal of the Guard at the Congressional Medal Of Honor Conference at Logan Airport, Boston MA. During that time he also checked in to II Marine Expeditionary Force UNITAS and attended the following courses in preparation for a South America deployment: Combat Rubber Recon Craft Course, USMC Military Tracking Course, and Non-Lethal Weapons Course.

Upon return from 11 MEF UNITAS, Staff Sergeant Callahan returned to 1/25 and deployed again to Japan. After returning home awaiting orders to Explosive Ordnance Disposal School (EOD), he worked at Recruiting Service Station Brockton, MA, serving as a Recruiters Assistant and was also a Volunteer Police Officer with Rockland, MA Police Department. In 2005 Staff Sergeant Callahan reported to EOD School. At EOD School, he was appointed the NCOIC of 25 joint service students. He also volunteered and participated in the clean up of the Florida Panhandle after Hurricane Ivan.

Staff Sergeant Callahan graduated second in his class at EOD School and immediately reported to 2nd EOD Company, Camp Lejeune North Carolina. In September, 2005 Staff Sergeant Callahan deployed as an EOI Technician to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. During his time he conducted numerous Explosive Ordnance Disposal combat missions where he was tasked with rendering safe Improvised Explosive Devices (IED), destroying enemy weapons and ordnance caches and conducting post blast analysis in Ramadi. For his heroic actions he was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat Distinguishing Device. After his tour, he returned to 2nd EOD Company Camp Lejeune and worked in the Special Training Unit, providing specialized training to the EOD Company and deploying units in preparation for Iraq.

Staff Sergeant Callahan attended the FBI Large Vehicle Post Blast Course, U.S. Army Global Anti-Terrorism Operational Readiness Course, Bill Scoff Raceway Anti-Terrorism Driving Course, and the AT Solutions IED Electronics Course. He also was

appointed a team leader for EOD Operations on a United States Secret Service mission in support of the President of the United States. Staff Sergeant Callahan was named the United States Marine Corps Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician of the Year for 2006 by the Marine Corps Engineer Association. In February, 2007 Staff Sergeant Callahan deployed for his second time to Iraq as an EOD Technician in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. During his time he conducted numerous Explosive Ordnance Disposal combat missions where he was tasked again with rendering safe Improvised-Explosive Devices, destroying enemy weapons and ordnance caches and conducting post blast analysis in Ramadi.

On April 27, 2007, Staff Sergeant Callahan was serving with 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward) in support of combat operations in Ramadi, Iraq. While conducting Explosive Ordnance Disposal procedures on an IED to ensure the safety of his fellow Marines, military and civilian personnel enemy forces detonated the IED, inflicting fatal wounds to SSgt Callahan. Staff Sergeant Callahan's courage, steadfast devotion to duty and personal sacrifice reflected great credit upon himself, his family, the United States Marine Corps, the United States Naval Service, and the United States of America. He will be missed, but never forgotten by those who know him or by those whose lives he touched.

Staff Sergeant Callahan's awards include the Purple Heart (Posthumously), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Combat Distinguishing Device, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Selected Marine Corps Reserve Medal (with 1 Bronze Star in lieu of 2nd award), the National Defense Service Medal the Armed Forces Reserve Medal Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War On Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War On Terrorism Service Medal and Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (with 3 Bronze Stars in lieu of 4th award).

On Tuesday, May 8, 2007 hundreds of mourners lined Main Street to honor Staff Sergeant Callahan. They held American flags as the funeral procession passed from the Copeland-MacKinnon Funeral Home to the Immaculate Conception Church. The Town of Easton, in recognition of its own American hero, dedicates this Town Report in memory of Staff Sergeant William J. Callahan, USMC.

TOWN OF EASTON

www.easton.ma.us

Incorporated	1725
Area of Town	29.04 Square Miles
Population	22,299 (2000 Federal Census) 23,270 (2006 Town Census)
Form of Government	Town Meeting
Total Assessed Real and Personal Property Valuation as of January 1, 2007	\$3,333,237,870
Town Meeting	Third Monday in May (The by-law regarding Annual Town Meeting was changed at the Special Town Meeting held on 6/4/001)
Town Election	Fourth Tuesday in April (The by-law regarding Annual Town Election was changed at the Special Town Meeting held on 10/30/00)

REPRESENTATIVES FOR EASTON

United States Senators

John F. Kerry

Edward M. Kennedy

Representative in Congress

Ninth Congressional District

Stephen F. Lynch, Boston

State Senators

Second Plymouth & Bristol District (Pcts. 1,2)

Robert S. Creedon, Jr., Brockton

Norfolk, Bristol & Plymouth District (Pcts. 3, 4, 5, 6)

Brian A. Joyce, Milton

Representatives in General Court

Eleventh Plymouth District (Pcts. 1, 2, 4, 5)

Geraldine Creedon, Brockton

Eighth Plymouth District (Pct. 6)

David L. Flynn, Bridgewater

Tenth Plymouth District (Pct. 3)

Christine E. Canavan, Brockton

Governor's Councillor

Second District (Pcts. 3, 4, 5, 6)

Kelly A. Timilty, Boston

Fourth District (Pcts. 1,2)

Christopher A. Iannella, Jr., Boston

Town of Easton, Massachusetts

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

TERM EXPIRES

MODERATOR

Richard C. Dailey 2009

SELECTMEN

Charles P. King 2010

Ellen Barlow 2010

John S. Haederle 2009

Colleen A. Corona 2009

Irwin M. Cohen 2008

ASSESSORS

Wallace M. Fulcher 2010

Shaun Fitzgerald 2009

Gerald J. Noonan 2008

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Jane Martin 2010

Dawn Marie Boynton 2010

Rebecca Turley (Appt to 2008) 2009

William P. Braun 2008

Caroline S. O'Neill 2008

BOARD OF HEALTH

Robert J. Kane 2010

Roger M. Kligler 2009

Gilbert A. Heino 2008

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Dennis Sheedy 2012

Sandra L. Conant 2011

June H. Brousseau 2010

Michael J. Malloy 2008

Vacancy (St Mmbr)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Patrick A. Goodman 2010

Donna A. Lopolito 2010

Stephen J. Delano 2010

Jeremy S. David 2009

Mark S. Carpentier 2009

Jonathan J. Pike 2009

Stephen A. Drown 2008

Robert L. Hicks 2008

Richard Coose 2008

REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Ralph Armstead 2010

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

Town Administrator	David A. Colton
Animal Control Officer	John D. Melin
Animal Control Officer Asst.	Elizabeth J. DeRosa
Animal Inspector, Milk Inspector	John D. Melin
Assessor, Assistant	Anne M. Carney
Board of Health Director	Wade D. Saucier
Building Inspector, Zoning Enforcement,	
ADA Coordinator	D. Mark Trivett
Council on Aging Director	Dolores M. Kent
Dir of Planning & Community Dev	Marc R. Rousseau
DPW Director	Wayne P. Southworth
Fire Chief	Thomas F. Stone
Library Executive Director	Annalee M. Bundy
Moderator, Deputy	John F. Creedon
Moderator, Deputy	Carla A. Goodwin
Moderator, Deputy	Michael G. Sites
Plumbing & Gas Inspector	Robert Govey
Plumbing & Gas Inspector, Asst.	Barton R. Carlson
Police Chief	Thomas F. Kominsky
Police Chief, Deputy	Allen R. Krajcik
Recreation Director	Jennifer Hruniak
School Superintendent	William J. Simmons, Ed.D., J.D.
School Superintendent, Asst.	Michael Green, Ed. D.
School, Director of Curriculum, Interim	Allen Duarte
Town Accountant	Wendy V. Nightingale
Town Clerk	Janet Andrus Linehan
Town Clerk, Assistant	Marie A. Graca
Town Counsel	Brackett & Lucas
Treasurer and Collector	Teresa DeSilva
Treasurer and Collector, Asst.	Linda Howard
Veterans Agent	Stephen F. Nolan, III
Water Division Superintendent	John J. Marsh
Wiring Inspector	Kevin Greiner
Wiring Inspector, Asst.	John F. Amorim

Easton Appointed Boards and Committees

(In Alphabetical Order)

	TERM EXP.		TERM EXP.
<u>BOARD OF APPEALS</u>		<u>CONSERVATION COMMISSION</u>	
Christopher J. Pike	2012	Jonathan Chace	2010
Stephen Pinzari	2011	Michael Ganshirt	2010
John Tupper	2010	John E. Grant	2009
Walter Mirrione	2009	Patricia A. Haederle	2009
Thomas A. Pursley	2008	Kyla Bennett	2008
Scott Erlich, Alternate	2009		
Paul Prew, Alternate	2008	<u>CONSTABLES</u>	
		Jerold Loomis	2010
<u>AUDIT COMMITTEE</u>		Harold L. March	2010
Brenda DeCosta	2008	John D. Melin	2010
Charles King	2008	Desmond Chow	2010
Jane Martin	2008	Phillip E. White, Jr.	2010
Jonathan Pike	2008	Sean Cushing	2010
		Michael Marrum	2010
<u>CABLE TV ADVISORY COMMITTEE</u>		William E. Scharnick	2009
Paul DiNicola	2010	Brent Peterson	2009
Leonard Berkowitz	2010	James T. Hartford	2009
Stuart Schoenfeld	2009	James A. Carey	2008
Howard Miller	2008	Brian Bishop	2008
Christine Margulies	2008	John J. Hurley	2008
		Margaret C. Carey	2008
<u>CANOE RIVER AQUIFER ADVISORY COMMITTEE</u>		Michael G. Bombas	2008
John Fresh, Jr.	2010	George E. Mather	2008
Wayne P. Southworth	2009	Scot Douglas	2008
Janice Fowler	2008	Robert Bishop	2008
<u>CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE</u>		<u>COUNCIL ON AGING</u>	
Mark S. Carpentier	2010	Nicolina Previti	2010
Sharyn Katz	2010	Rose Friedeborn	2010
Paul Dombrowski	2009	Marie Healey	2009
Vacancy (Baker Resigned 9/1/06)	2008	Ethel Pomerleau	2009
Wendy V. Nightingale, Town Accountant		Francis H. Spillane	2008
Gregory Strange, Planning & Zoning Board		David Cudmore	2008
Jeremy David, Finance Committee		Carl Palm	2008
		Delores M. Kent, Director	
<u>CEMETERY COMMISSION</u>		<u>CULTURAL COUNCIL</u>	
Melanie Deware	2010	Alexander Maller	2010
John D. Melin	2009	Peter Twiraga	2010
Vacancy	2008	Wanda Azevedo	2009
		Mary Goulart	2009
<u>COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT COMMITTEE</u>		Marion Wingfield	2009
Patricia F. Hunt	2010	Katherine Minsky	2009
James D. Mullen, Jr.	2009	Heidi Harfinger	2009
Michael J. Boyle	2008	Nancy Arns	2008
Avery Lee Williams	2008	Michael Mahany	2008
John E. Grant, Conservation Commission		Leo Landry	2008
Frank Spillane, Recreation Commission			
Christopher J. Kone, Planning & Zoning Board		<u>EDUCATIONAL & MUNICIPAL TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE</u>	
Edmund C. Hands, Historical Commission		Lewis N. Aries, Jr	Indefinite
Michael Malloy, Housing Authority		Judith Canty	Indefinite
		Anne M. Carney	Indefinite
<u>COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES</u>		Michael Deltano	Indefinite
Jon Gilmore	2010	Christine Margulies	Indefinite
Dana Lange	2010	Howard Miller	Indefinite
Robert Coe	2009		
Patricia Ellen Somers	2009		
Paul DeCouto	2008		
D. Mark Trivett, Ex-Officio			

Easton Appointed Boards and Committees

(In Alphabetical Order)

	TERM EXP.		TERM EXP.
<u>FAIR HOUSING COMMITTEE</u>		<u>LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS</u>	
Vacancy	2010	William M. Ames (Corp)	2010
Paula Piccinin	2010	Marion Wingfield (Town)	2010
Ghardy Daniel	2010	Hazel L. Varella (Town)	2010
Donna Bonia	2010	Stephen Merlin (Town)	2009
Calvin Harris	2009	Marcia Connors (Town)	2009
Vacancy	2009	Gerard S. Marsan (Corp)	2008
Vacancy (2)	2008	Donna P. Richman (Corp)	2008
		Janice Lyttle (Corp)	2008
		Kevin E Paicos (Corp)	2008
		James Fowler, (Corp, Alternate)	2008
		Annalee M. Bundy, Executive Director	
<u>FENCE VIEWERS</u>			
Robert L. Hicks	2008		
Charles Hammond	2008		
<u>HISTORICAL COMMISSION</u>		<u>MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE</u>	
Marcy Stefura	2010	Wallace Fulcher	2010
Mary Elizabeth Fitzgerald	2010	Ralph Vatalaro	2010
Edmund C. Hands	2009	Robert E. Langway, Jr.	2009
David Olson	2009	Henry P. Narsasian	2008
John Ventresco	2009	Kenneth Carlson	2008
Greg Galer	2008	Marc Brockman, School Rep	
Melanie-Jane Deware	2008	Jane Pike Benton, School Rep	
Vacancy (Meninno Resigned), Associate Member		Dawn Boynton, School Rep, Alternate	
Larry Mowatt, Associate Member		Dr. Michael Green, School Supt Rep, Ex-Officio	
Catherine M. Adler, Associate Member		Wayne Southworth, DPW Director, Ex-Officio	
<u>HOUSING PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE</u>		<u>OLD COLONY ELDER SERVICES</u>	
Vacancy	2010	Delores Kent, Board of Directors	
Rachel Hansen	2009	Nicolina Previti, Board of Directors Alternate	
Ilisabeth Bornstein	2009		
Mary Elizabeth Fitzgerald	2009	<u>OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL (OCPC)</u>	
Vacancy	2008	Jeanmarie Kent Joyce, Representative	
		Stephen Donahue, Delegate Alternate	
<u>HUMAN RESOURCES BOARD</u>		<u>OCPC AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COMMITTEE</u>	
Stephen Delamere	2010	Phyllis Kiessling, Delegate	
Jacqueline A. Shea	2010	Marie Healey, Alternate	
Brian Hoffman	2009		
Donald Shanbar	2008	<u>OCPC TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE</u>	
Lisa M Pereira	2008	Wayne P. Southworth, Representative	
<u>INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY</u>		<u>PERMANENT LANDFILL COMMITTEE</u>	
Richard L. Freitas	2008	David W. Brown	2010
		Vacancy	2010
<u>INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE</u>		Gil A. Heino	2009
Marie Graca	2009	Todd Heino	2008
David Brown	2009		
Christopher Mills	2009	<u>PLANNING & ZONING BOARD</u>	
Ken Flanagan	2009	Gregory Strange	2012
Joseph Richard	2009	Walter H. Johnson	2011
Christine Midura	2009	Colin W. Gillis	2010
Jim McAvoy	2009	Carol Symmons	2009
Jean Amichetti	2009	Christine Santoro	2008
Karyn Smith	2009	(Vacancy), Alternate	2008
Teresa DeSilva	2009		

Easton Appointed Boards and Committees

(In Alphabetical Order)

TERM EXP.

RECREATION COMMISSION

Leonard R. Cidado	2010
Michael J. McDonald	2010
Kathleen DeGrandis	2010
Elizabeth Nikiciuk	2009
Charles H. Hammond	2009
Tana Babbitt	2008
Robert Benton	2008
Jennifer Hruniak, Recreation Director	

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Jean H. Cote	2010
Kent M. Keith	2009
Jean M. Kent	2008
Janet Andrus Linehan, Clerk	

SCHOOL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Marc R. Brockman	4/1/2006
Lennart K. Altieri	
Dawn Marie Boynton, School	
Judith E. Josephs	
Henry P. Narsasian	4/14/2006
Wallace Fulcher	4/14/2006
Robert L. Hicks, Finance Committee	
Michael Green, School	
Jane Martin, School	

VETERANS' GRAVES OFFICER

John D. Melin	2008
---------------	------

VETERANS AND MEMORIAL DAY PARADE COMMITTEE

Alvin Smart, Commander VFW

Louis G. Silva

John Flynn

Ernest R. Camara

Daniel B. Amorim

WATER RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION

Shirley Tufts	2010
Steven Barth	2009
James D. Mullen, Jr.	2008
Wayne P. Southworth, Local Water Resources	
Management Officer	
John J. Marsh, Water Superintendent	

WORLD WAR MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

John F. Hurley, Chair

Chairman, Board of Selectmen

Chairman, School Committee

Commander, George F. Schindler Post VFW

Commander, George S. Shepard Post, A.L.

John D. Melin

Robert J. McLaughlin

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

With the Town's financial situation stabilized, 2007 was a year that allowed us to focus on several longstanding challenges: to provide improved programming and activity space for our senior population, pursue options for creating additional recreational fields to meet a growing shortage in the community, and improve the delivery of town services to save money and realize efficiencies. We are pleased to report that we were able to make significant headway on these objectives.

Last year, the Town of Easton Solid Waste Recycle Committee was formed to examine ways to lower our residents' trash collection costs. After much research and negotiation, the Board signed a contract for an optional town-wide single vendor trash program in March 2007. The program began in June, with about half of Easton's households participating. The program offers many benefits, including cost savings and stability, flexibility, and environmental benefits. In the first 6 months of the program, the town recycled 282.56 tons of materials, far surpassing the amount of recycled trash of the other vendors operating in town.

We would like to thank the Solid Waste Recycling Committee for their efforts on behalf of Easton. We remain committed to this program and hope that other residents will join us, making the program even more cost-effective and better for the environment and the future of our community.

In April, Chuck King was elected to his second term on the Board of Selectmen, and we would like to thank him for his continued service. Ellen Barlow, a recent member of the School Committee, was also elected to the Board. We welcome her, and look forward to working with both Selectmen over the next three years.

In May, Town Meeting voted to support the proposal to purchase Frothingham Hall for use as a Senior/Community Center. The purchase of this building achieved several goals. The purchase preserves a beautiful historic structure in the heart of our community. It will allow Frothingham Hall, with its long history of community-oriented use, to continue in that role. It will also serve as a long-needed home base for our senior services and recreational programs. An additional bonus is that proceeds from the purchase of Frothingham Hall will fund the endowment for Frothingham Park, so it can continue to provide a place for recreation.

The Board of Selectmen, at the suggestion of the Town Administrator, began a Community Visioning process in order to come up goals for "what we want the Town of Easton to be like in 20 years.". This is a key first step toward revising the town's Master Plan, which was last updated in 1972. The Board hired consultant Madeline Snow to facilitate the process and the first session of the Community Visioning Dialogue was held on October 27, 2006 at Oakes Ames Memorial Hall. We would like to thank all of those employees, committee members and residents of Easton who participated in the initial meeting, which produced a consensus-based list of five key areas for further consideration: Economic Development, Environment, Preservation, Public Facilities and Transportation/Traffic. We look forward to continuing the process into the new year.

As 2007 drew to a close, the Oliver Ames High School and Easton Middle School Projects neared completion. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Municipal Building Committee for their dedication and long hours of service. They have worked tirelessly to keep these projects on time and on budget. We would also like to thank Tony Iaccarino of Gilbane Construction, the Town's Project Manager, for his diligent oversight of this project. He has become a part of this community, and he will be missed. We wish him the best of luck in his next assignment.

Easton's financial picture has remained stable this past year, due in large part to the passage of the Proposition 2 ½ override in June 2006. Unlike many of the communities surrounding us, we have been fortunate to be able to maintain current service levels, and in some cases, make modest expansions. The Board continues to work toward promoting fiscal stability, on both a community and State level. We understand that given the current fiscal condition in the state, we cannot expect to continue to make progress without a statewide solution to address runaway healthcare costs, declining state aid, and slowing revenues.

Finally, this year marks the first full year of service of our Town Administrator, David Colton. We thank David for his enthusiasm, creativity, and commitment to the Town of Easton. We would also like to thank Mary Southworth and Kit Minsky for their hard work and dedication this past year. As we have said, and will continue to say, we couldn't do it without you.

The Board would also like to thank all the employees and volunteers who give so much to this community, and we look forward to continuing our work in the coming year.

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Department of Revenue regulations now require assessors to review assessments on a yearly basis to see if they meet the statistical criteria contained in the Massachusetts General Laws. Median assessments must be at least 90 % of market value and not exceed 110% as determined by analysis of the previous year's sales. Assessments must also meet uniformity criteria that show all similar properties are being assessed by the same methodology. The results of analyzing the 2006 valid or "arm's length" sales showed that most residential values declined in value and the new fiscal year 2008 assessments reflect this decline. Sales continued to gradually decline during calendar 2007 and this will be reflected in the fiscal year 2009 assessments. Commercial and industrial value are determined by an income capitalization process that reacts more slowly to market variations and those values remained stable throughout 2006.

Decline in assessed values has little effect on real estate tax liability because the same amount of money needs to be raised whether the values decline, stay the same, or increase. If the values decline, the tax rate is proportionately higher and the reverse is true if values increase. Even if values remain the same, Prop 2½ allows increases to the overall amount the Town can raise. Due to these allowable increases, taxes normally will go up 3-4% a year.

Prior to setting the tax rate, the assessors are responsible for putting together information to aid the Board of Selectmen in its decision concerning classification. The Selectmen make the decision on whether to have a single or split tax rate.

Real estate overvaluation applications are reviewed by the Board of Assessors. The time frame for filing an overvaluation application is from late December when the actual bill comes out through the following February 1st. A postmark on or before February 1st from the US Post Office is a timely filing. The filing time period is set in the General Laws and late applications cannot be considered. Decisions on all applications are made by the assessors within three months of the filing date. Assessors can only look at the assessed value (not taxes) to determine if abatement is warranted. Decisions of the Board of Assessors can be appealed to the Appellate Tax Board within that Board's filing period.

The office has worked on upgrading its maps this year and the new system will now have all of the maps on the same scale. This is a decided improvement over the old system that used different scales in different parts of Town. The staff has been working with the GIS staff person in the DPW to come up with ways to add additional layers to the system that came about through collaboration with the Bristol County Registry of Deeds and Mass GIS.

The office works with the Council on Aging and the Veteran's Agent to alert elderly and veterans to changes in the laws governing statutory exemptions. Assessing staff spend a good deal of time on the phone and in the office helping our homeowners fill out applications.

Motor vehicle excise bill inquiries concerning abatements, place of garaging issues, and overvaluation of the vehicle are handled in this office. Staff is in constant contact with the Registry of Motor Vehicles trying to resolve issues for the taxpayers.

The Community Preservation Act Surcharge is assessed through this office and the Board processes exemptions to this surcharge.

Many reports for other departments and state agencies are generated from the assessors' data base. The report that is most requested is the abutters' list for public hearings.

The assessors' data is not on the Internet yet mainly due to limited financial resources. If the money is appropriated, the data will be available.

A SUMMARY OF THE RECAPITULATION SHEET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008 IS AS FOLLOWS:

Assessed Value of Real Estate	\$ 3,240,909,850
Assessed Value of Personal Property	35,923,230
Total Assessed Value of Real & Personal Property	<u>\$ 3,276,833,080</u>

EXPENDITURES:

Appropriations	\$ 64,406,090.18
Cherry Sheet Offsets & Misc.Charges	440,928.00
State & County Charges	719,467.00
Overlay Account	377,159.09
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 65,943,644.27</u>

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND AVAILABLE FUNDS:

State Receipts	\$ 13,248,864.00
Local Receipts	5,292,198.00
Enterprise Funds	4,205,387.00
Free Cash/Other Available Funds	3,813,411.18
Community Preservation Funds	1,732,972.00
Total Receipts & Available Funds	<u>\$ 28,292,832.18</u>

NET AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION \$ 37,650,812.09

Tax Rate = $37,650,812.09 / 3,276,833,080 \times 1000 = \11.49

The assessment date for fiscal year 2008 values was January 1, 2007. The Town now has 5,499 single-family homes, 1,404 condominiums, 158 two-family homes and 21 three-family homes. Both residential and commercial new construction slowed down during 2006.

Significant Dates for Taxpayers and Citizens regarding the Assessors' Office:

June 30 th	Property Tax Assessment Date. The Town adopted Chapter 653 of the Ma. General Laws at the Special Town Meeting in January, 2004. This changed the date from January 1 st to June 30 th for succeeding fiscal years.
February 1 st	Payment of third quarterly tax bill and deadline for accepting appeals. The only time taxpayers can appeal assessments due to overvaluation or disproportionate assessment is from the time the actual bill is mailed in December through February 1 st (or the next work day if February 1 st falls on a weekend.)
March 1 st	Date for submission of Forms of List. This is a listing of all business personal property and must be filed every year by anyone doing business in Town.
March	Exemption applications for elderly (over 65), blind persons, and disabled veterans with a rating from the VA, can be accepted up to three months from the time the

actual tax bill is mailed the previous December. Applications are mailed in August to anyone qualifying in the previous year. Community Preservation Act exemptions may be submitted anytime after March 1st and must be accompanied by the income tax filing from the previous year. Contact the office for exemption forms.

- May 1st Payment of fourth quarterly tax bill.
- August 1st Payment of the 1st preliminary tax bill. Preliminary bills are based on at least one quarter of the taxes from the previous fiscal year. If significant changes have taken place such as subdivision of land or new construction taxes will be estimated accordingly. New construction will be based on whatever is complete on the previous June 30th.
- November 1st Payment of the 2nd preliminary tax bill.
- December Setting of the tax rate and mailing of the third quarterly bill that is the actual tax bill for the current fiscal year.

Telephone Number for questions or information: 508-230-0520

GERALD J. NOONAN	Chairman
SHAUN FITZGERALD	Vice-Chairman
WALLY FULCHER	Clerk

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DATA PROCESSING DEPARTMENT

The Town of Easton Data Processing Department provides computer and technical support and service for the Easton Town Offices, the Department of Public Works, the Water Division, the Police and Fire Departments and also the School Business Office. We are responsible for 17 servers, 100 desktop computers and 36 notebook computers. All of our sites are connected with Cisco routers through Verizon Point-to-Point T1's. All of the town departments access the Internet thru a single Comcast cable modem provided by CELT/Integrity.

During the summer of 2007 both the root domain controller and the Exchange server were upgraded with new hardware. A new server was also added at the Town Offices for the Bit9 Parity software. This server will provide lockdown capability for all computers and servers across all of our sites. This lockdown function will prevent any virus or malware from executing even if the anti-virus signature is not up to date and will give us another layer of security. The Bit9 Parity will be rolled out over the course of the winter as the anti-virus software is upgraded to the next release.

Easton also has its own custom financial package based on the Unisys Business Information Server (BIS) software. This program has been developed and maintained by our own System Designer/Programmer, Eric Davis. This program has been written with direct input from our department heads and users allowing us the freedom to design every function based on the actual work flow of each department. Not only has this enabled our employees to work more efficiently but has saved the town tens of thousands of dollars in expensive software maintenance fees annually.

There was one major and several minor projects started and completed for the 2007 calendar year that enhances the Town's application software. The one major project was the designing, writing and implementation of batch processing for the three major billing and collection applications of Motor Vehicle (MV), Real Estate (RE) and Personal Property (PP). This new system helps the Collector/Treasurer's office verify, maintain, control and audit all the over the counter, lockbox, tax service and on-line receipts. Reminder: residents can pay on-line at <http://www.easton.ma.us>. Other completed projects included the synchronization of MV, RE and PP bank scan lines; the end of Fiscal Year archiving of Group Insurance programs, transactions and databases; implementation of payroll Flexible Spending deductions; creation of enhanced payroll override deduction capabilities; a new Personnel/Payroll comprehensive demographic data and wages report; and improved control of the payroll hours entry process.

Anne Carney, Department Head
Eric Davis, System Designer/Programmer
Michael Deltano, Information Systems Manager

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The priority goal of the Finance Committee is to make recommendations at the Annual Town Meeting (ATM) and Special Town Meetings regarding the Town's finances and other matters based on our diligent reviews and expertise. Our objective is to provide sufficient, objective information about the Town's financial situation in a straightforward manner in order to assist Easton citizens in making informed decisions and choices.

Consistent with prior years, the Finance Committee held more than 30 meetings in fiscal year 2007. Our criteria for meetings are: open discussion; compromise on matters where alternatives may exist or pros and cons of action/inaction come under consideration; and, ultimately, consensus that ensures the best interests of the town as a whole are met. The Finance Committee is responsible for reviewing in detail the departmental budgets in advance of the ATM. We meet with all Town department heads to discuss the quality and quantity of services being provided currently and as compared to historical services and services provided in comparable communities. We also discuss needs and visions for the future.

As we start our review of next year's budget, we face the same challenges as many towns in the Commonwealth: limited or declining revenues; fixed costs, such as health care premiums, retirement benefits, and utilities, continuing to consume higher levels of our budget dollars; and the unknown ultimate outcome of contributions from the State. As always, we will apply the appropriate level of scrutiny to all department requests and help to ensure the judicious use of Town funds.

Finance Committee members participate in a variety of other committees and groups throughout the year. Our members are actively involved on the Budget Subcommittee, the Capital Planning Committee, and the Audit Committee, as well as in ad hoc groups formed to address specific situations and needs. As your elected officials, we are dedicated to serving the Town of Easton.

We enjoy strong working relationships with the Board of Selectmen, School Committee, Town Administrator, Superintendent of Schools, and the Human Resource Advisory Board. We appreciate the efforts of all Town employees, especially the department heads, for working with us throughout the year, and look forward to continuing our mutually respectful collaboration for the benefit of the citizens of Easton.

We wish to thank Stacey Lincoln for her dedicated services as secretary to the Finance Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Lopolito, Chairman
Stephen Delano, Vice Chairman
Jonathan (Jay) Pike, Clerk

Mark Carpentier
Richard Coose
Jeremy David

Stephen A. Drown
Patrick A. Goodman
Robert L. Hicks

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

During 2007, the Easton Public Schools continued to address new responsibilities and demands, while focusing on short and long-range plans to meet increased programmatic, staffing, space and school renovation concerns. The support received from the citizens of Easton as a result of the successful operational override was greatly appreciated, and allowed the school system in 2007 to maintain programs and positions, while beginning to address class size issues, the recommendations of the NEAS&C Accreditation Report, and increased special education and utility costs.

At the same time, the collaboration between the School Committee, staff, parents and the community-at-large provided the foundation for a comprehensive and cohesive approach to the education of the students of Easton.

As this report indicates, the Easton Public Schools evidenced significant accomplishments and changes during the past year. In addition to the administrative, statutory and fiscal impacts that influenced the day-to-day operation of the school system, a number of events, achievements, and issues are indicative of the active and productive learning that takes place in the schools. This summary touches upon some of the details that made up the lives of the young people and adults of Easton during the past year.

STAFF CHANGES

A number of staff changes were experienced by the school system during the 2007 school year. Retirements included High School Librarian Kathy Kenney, High School Industrial Technology teacher Vincent Mack, Junior High Special Education teachers Kathy Williams and Lynn Peterson, Junior High English teacher Dale Erickson, Junior High French teacher Margo Turcotte, Junior High Psychologist Lois Miller, Elementary staff Jan Tyson, Sherrie Banchiere, Anne Thomas, Carolyn Belmore, Sandra Harrington and Lena Pine, and Director of Curriculum Dr. Nancy Sullivan.

Staff moving to other professional opportunities included Secondary staff Cara O'Connell, Clorinda Hoffman, Jane Hurley and Ted Medeiros, and Elementary staff Elissa Rosenthal, Shawna Powers and Anne Vasey.

The Easton schools and the Town of Easton will certainly miss the professionalism, love of children and dedication shown by those staff members who have left the school system during this period of change and transition.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The class of 2007 was highly successful in reaching its goals. Approximately ninety-one percent enrolled in four-year colleges and universities, while six percent went on to junior colleges, community colleges, nursing schools or technical institutes. Three percent elected to join the world of work and/or the military.

The class of 2007 also set a new record for accruing the largest financial aid total to date. The individual awards were a combination of collegiate, federal, state and local funds. The citizens of Easton continued their generosity by contributing to the many scholarships raised within the community.

Students continued to achieve well above national levels in the SATs. The Advanced Placement test scores in English Literature and Composition, United States History, American Political Science, Spanish, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics and Calculus indicated that approximately seventy-five percent of those taking the tests earned scores of 3 or above, thus entitling them to college credit. Five high school students also earned Commended Student status in the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Easton students continued to take advantage of dual enrollment opportunities with area colleges, while others were involved in coursework at Stonehill College for both high school and college credit. The Business and Technology Department's Shadow Program, improving career education, had high school students shadow local employers for a day in many of the area companies to learn about a previously selected occupation. Students were also involved in Career Speaker Day, in which speakers from a myriad number of careers and occupations volunteered to meet with students, both in their classes and individually. In addition, the department started a new organization, DECA, part of the Distributive Education Clubs of America, which is an international association of students studying marketing and management in business, finance, hospitality and marketing sales and service.

High school and junior high school students were again involved in three days of intensive training in conflict resolution and peer mediation strategies. The program is in its fifteenth year and has proven to be a very effective means of resolving peer issues and conflicts. Also, a number of Oliver Ames High School students participated in the American Legion Girls State program in late spring, and in the Boys State program that was held at Stonehill College in June.

At the junior high school, Peer Assistant Leaders provided assistance to students new to the building. In addition to providing information to grade 6 students at the Olmsted and Richardson schools, students assisted at the afternoon and evening functions held at the junior high school. The National Junior Honor Society welcomed ninety-five new members into the Society and undertook a number of community service projects, including the NRT Harvest Fair, the Lions Club Auction and tutoring students after school.

An outgrowth of this involvement at the junior high school is the student organization, HANDS, through which Easton students dedicated themselves to promoting tolerance and respect for others, and focused on ways to help achieve a non-discriminatory society. One such way was the continuation of the Facing History and Ourselves program, an interdisciplinary focus of study between the Social Studies and Technology Departments. Also at the junior high school, the guidance staff worked closely with HUGS II in coordinating after-school programs that included enrichment as well as entertainment for junior high school students. Programs offered included sports activities, a homework club, Spanish club, videography club and computer club.

The Art Department continued to oversee many contests so that Easton students had an opportunity to compete in a variety of arenas. A number of high school and junior high school students were selected to participate in the state-wide *Boston Globe* Art Awards competition, and Honorable Mentions were earned by Chelsea Rathburn of the high school, and Ashley O'Malley and Emily Iddings of the junior high school. Senior Erica Grossman won first and second place awards in the Quincy Arts Fest in the fall.

Twenty-two junior high students participated in the SMARTS Middle School Art Show, and elementary students Stephanie Sacco of Olmsted School and Katherine Flaherty of Richardson School were first place winners in the Lions Club Peace Poster Contest. Additional elementary students had their art work recognized through the Easton Water Department Poster Contest, with Cassandra Gavin the first-place winner in grade three, Nicolette Kolgraf the first-place winner in grade four, and Amber Perry the first-place winner in grade five. Student work was also exhibited at many locations throughout the year, including the high school's alumni art gallery, the art hallway in the high school, the Central Administration office, the Fuller Art Museum, Borderland State Park, the Easton Marketplace, the Brockton Art Center, the Attleboro Art Museum, the Transportation Building in Boston, Stonehill College, and the Wang Center.

A busy and productive Art Club was established at the high school. Members of the Art Club completed a beautiful wall mural of the historic Easton Gatehouse in March, and started work on a Senior Mural in November. Both murals are located on stairwells in the high school.

In Music, the Oliver Ames High School Marching Band and Color Guard competed in numerous competitions and exhibitions this fall under the direction of the Band Director, Mr. Robert Wheeler. In November, the Band received a Gold Medal and placed second in their division at the NESBA Finals in Reading, and concluded their season marching in the Veteran's Day Parade and the Lion's Holiday Festival Parade in Easton.

Students in the OAHS Show Choir and the Pit Band participated in the 23rd Anniversary Baystate Show Choir Festival. The school system hosted more than 350 students from Easton and twelve other communities across New England and Canada during the two-day festival. The Show Choir entered the Mill City Festival in Lowell, placing third with a Gold Medal, while the Pit Band received a Gold Medal for their performance. Both bands received Gold Medals at the Central Mass Show Choir Festival in Dudley and the Eastern Show Choir Competition, while the Jazz Band received a Bronze Medal at the Norwood Jazz Classic and a Silver Medal at the Stoughton IAJE Jazz Festival. The Show Choir completed the season by receiving the Grand Champion Award in the Fame Competition in San Antonio, Texas, as well as awards for Best Show Design, Best Choreography, and Best Combo, with Jennifer Lance receiving the award for "Outstanding Stage Presence."

The Concert Choir and Marching Band performed at the Easton Lions Club Winter Festival, while students selected to participate in the Southeast District Music Festival included Justin Gillis, Jeanine Ilacqua, Lauren Maggio, and Nicky Maggio from the Concert Choir, Guy Fredericks, Maria Hadge and Stephanie Mascary from the Orchestra, and Connor Buckley and Jennifer Shea from the Concert Band. Five Easton students, Nicky Maggio, Maria Hadge, Lauren Maggio, Connor Buckley and Jennifer Shea, also went on to audition for the All-State Festival in early spring.

In the junior high school, sixteen students were chosen for the Southeast District Music Festival, with students being accepted into the festival in orchestra, band and chorus. Jenny Mudd was also chosen as the Dancer for one of the District pieces, performing a solo dance while the students sang. Also, four of the junior high ensembles (Band, Chorus, Orchestra, and Jazz Band) earned a Gold Medal rating at the annual Great East Festival in Springfield, while the Show Choir achieved a Platinum Award for their performance.

The 2007 OAHS musical production of "Little Shop of Horrors," directed by Mrs. Dalrymple, was an outstanding production and excellent learning experience for the students in the cast and the numerous staff and parents who took part. The collective participation of all the individuals who worked on the show helped to make the show a rousing success. At the elementary level, concerts were held in January and May at the Olmsted/Richardson schools, and featured the combined Olmsted and Richardson fifth grade chorus, sixth grade chorus, orchestra, chamber orchestra, jazz band, show choir and the concert bands. Fourth graders participated in the two spring concerts held in May. Also in the spring, Richardson students under the direction of Carol Allen, and Olmsted students under the direction of Ginny Elson, presented school sponsored performances with over one hundred students in each school participating in the two programs. In the three primary schools, students participated in musical tributes on Veterans Day and Memorial Day, and individual schools held many end-of-the-year musical productions with outstanding student participation and individual and group performances.

In Social Studies, students were involved in Community Service, Student Government Day, the Academic Bowl Team, the Mock Trial program, the Facing History and Ourselves program at grade 9, National History Day at grade 8, the two day Hockomock Senate, the Lions Club Speech Competition, the Lions Club Peace Poster Contest, school Geography Bees, the Easton Film Festival, and the Pvt. George F. Schindler Post of the VFW Voice of Democracy Contest.

Katrina Bastian was the winner of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Voice of Democracy Speech contest, with Nicole Ayasse placing second. Laura Basovich was the winner of the grade 7 and 8 Geography Bee, and Sarah Loftus won honorable mention in the National History Day Regional competition. Samantha Farrell was selected this year for the Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

In the Foreign Language Department, eleven Spanish V students and their chaperone, Maria Vera, participated in the Exchange Program to La Mojenera, Spain. The trip included stays in Almería, Granada, Toledo and Madrid. Six students from Spain and their teacher spent two weeks in Easton as part of this exchange program. Also, Claire Planeta accompanied two other groups of students on trips abroad. One group went to Forge-les—Eaux, France, while the other group went to Pompeii, Naples and Rome, Italy.

Students continued to achieve in the various languages, with students who were recognized through the National Latin exam in either Maxima or Magma Cum Laude including Lydia Mullen, Marianna Siquiera, Ana Trilleras, Stavros Batsinelas, Adam McSherry, and Rachel Wakefield. Also, three graduating seniors were presented outstanding achievement awards: Danielle Bailey in Latin, Erica Fuld in French, and Michael Clark in Spanish.

In Family and Consumer Sciences students again baked cookies for the Easton Firefighters annual children's party, quilted baby quilts for donation to needy children and the HUGS organization, donated hand sewn cloth dolls to the Boston Medical Center pediatric ward as part of the "Annual Doll Project" sponsored by the hospital, cooked holiday meals for elderly citizens involved with the Council of Aging, prepared refreshments for the Science Fair, altered prom gowns, made costumes for school plays, and sponsored outdoor barbecues for the three junior high school classes. At OAHS, the "Visiting Chefs" program continued to be a highly popular interdisciplinary addition to the school year. Local chefs from Easton and surrounding communities, including Chef Jim Messinger and Chef Mike Mattola, volunteered their expertise in the field to benefit the development of student skills.

In the English Department, students who were recognized for their appreciation of language and literature and received a copy of The Complete Works of William Shakespeare included Erica Fuld, Carissa Fish, Stacie Binney, Daniel Crisman, Janine Amirault, Olga Panagopolous, and Polina Laboutina. The third annual Charlene Howarth Award was presented to James Tack, who received a volume of Dante's *Trilogy The Divine Comedy*. Also, Carissa Fish and Alex Kershaw were award winners in the Letters about Literature contest sponsored by the Massachusetts Center for the Book.

The Physical Education Department continued with the inclusion of "Quidditch" as part of the elementary curriculum. "Quidditch" provides a medium for interdisciplinary teaching and learning by applying imagery from reading lessons to an adaptation of the game of lacrosse. Classroom activities and current events are connected with meaningful experiences in physical education that foster school spirit, respect, responsibility, and good sportsmanship. At the high school, students focused on an awareness of the health-related components of fitness by completing writing assignments on cardiovascular fitness, muscular strength and endurance. These are then kept in student portfolios. Also, the secondary level implemented a new curriculum guide that reflects a wellness approach based on the *Physical Best* philosophy, a nationally recognized program that emphasizes personal improvement and lifetime activity.

Mathematics students in the secondary schools continued to score well above the norm in the state mandated MCAS exam, the SAT test, and Advanced Placement exams. This was the third year that Oliver Ames offered both the AB and BC level Advanced Placement Calculus courses, as well as Algebra III Trigonometry. Also, the OAHS Mathematics Team, led by Mrs. McGuirk with students from Algebra II to AP Calculus, was quite successful on the challenging tests provided by the American Scholastic Mathematics Association. Students on the junior high school Mathematics Team, led by Ms. Porter, once again excelled in the American Mathematics competition.

In the Science Department, at the grade 9 level, the physical science program moved into its sixth year of operation, utilizing technology grant money to support this initiative with laptop computers and state-of-the-art data collection probes. The junior high school engineering technology program again included grade 8 students, affording them practical problem solving experience and preparatory skills for the grade 9 physical sciences program.

At the high school level, the Oliver Ames High School Science Team, under the supervision of coaches Ms. Annunziato and Mrs. Donohue, competed in the first Olympiad at the high school. In the events that were held, Jeremy Mudd and Sean Maloney won a gold medal in Health Science, and Nick Musselman won a silver medal in Health Science.

The following Industrial Technology students received personal recognition for their craftsmanship and work ethic: Automotive Technology — Jon Carroll; Auto Collision Repair Technology — James Fitton; Architectural Engineering — Adam Belanger; Building Construction — David Gasse; Video and Radio Production Technology — Andy Ippolito; and, Interior Design Technology — Joshua Berry.

Elementary school students continued to achieve and find success in a variety of forums. Among the areas to be highlighted are the following: the "Jump Rope for Heart" initiative; the Science Olympiad, through the coordination of the high school Science Team; the annual school-wide art shows at both the Richardson School and the Olmsted School; the Biography Wax Museum for grade five students at Richardson; the district-wide grade 3 Family Science Night; the Bullying Education Program for grade 4 and grade 5 students, sponsored by Kids CARE and the Easton Family Task Force; Mother/Daughter and Father/Son Nights; the opportunity to participate in the grade 5 and 6 National Geography Bee; and, "A Living

History,” a collaboration between the Richardson School and the Ames Free Library.

Other elementary activities included ongoing community service endeavors; the Dr. Seuss’ birthday reading celebration activities; the outstanding projects displayed in the elementary school invention conventions; the continued success shown by students in the New England Math League; participation in the Johns Hopkins Talent Search; the accomplishments of the Future Problem Solving Teams; student participation in the social competency programs; the SAFE Fire Safety Program; the Northeast Search Dogs Program; the Read Across America Program; the Operation Mail Call; the Lions Club Peace Poster International Contest; the World of Difference curriculum; Portfolio Breakfasts; and, individual school programs for students such as student councils, school stores, student newsletters and newspapers, reading incentive programs, family math, science, technology and literacy nights, summer reading programs, and citizen of the month recognition.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

One of the most significant factors in increasing student achievement is teacher effectiveness, which is clearly enhanced by providing high quality professional development for teachers. Staff members continued to build upon their knowledge base by participating in a number of both in-house and off-site professional development programs. In 2007, more than a third of the professional staff also participated in coursework at area colleges and universities. In addition, thirty-two professional development workshop programs, many of which included multiple sessions, were conducted on-site.

As part of the Easton Public Schools Mentor Program, all first and second year professional staff members received guidance and support from a trained mentor. Over one hundred mentors and new staff members worked together in this mentor program.

The school district’s Standing Task Force for English Language Arts and Reading (STELAR) continued to lead the efforts to increase student achievement in reading. As part of this effort, in the fall of 2007 all K-6 teachers participated in a half-day professional development program that was conducted by Mrs. Stephanie Harvey, a nationally recognized author and consultant in the teaching of reading comprehension strategies. During her visit to the school system, Mrs. Harvey also facilitated discussion groups with teachers and administrators. Her work is grounded in the components of a multi-sensory, active literacy learning approach. STELAR is developing an action plan for the school district to build on and sustain Mrs. Harvey’s work.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT/ACTIVITIES

Meri Schreiber, multi-age classroom teacher at the Parkview School, was selected by the Lions Club as Teacher of the Year. Also at the Parkview School, music teacher Brian Sandberg and SPED teacher Nancy Kamieniecki received Masters Degrees in their fields, while teacher Sandy Rizzo received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Massachusetts Department of Education.

At the Moreau Hall School, staff members Carole Hedrick, Brian Sandberg, Kate Hart, Carrie Hammond and Sue Masse worked as a team to produce a booklet for parents that outlined the Music, Physical Education, Library and Art curriculum at the primary level in the school district.

The Early Childhood Council worked throughout the year to streamline the Kindergarten Screening and Orientation Process, and to make recommendations for program and space utilization at the three primary schools when the third grades move to the Olmsted and Richardson Schools in the fall of 2008. The new kindergarten screening process, parent orientation programs at the individual primary schools, and the end-of-the-year arena screening program will be implemented this year.

At the Center School, FEEE grants were awarded to staff member Phyllis Finstein for Reading Strategies Initiatives, to Jenna Glynn and Suzanne Schaubert for wellness initiatives, and to Thomas Higgins, Suzanne Schaubert and Lauren Egizio for a History of Easton program.

Patrick Lucier was chosen to replace Interim Principal Allen Duarte as Principal of the Richardson School for the 2007-2008 school year. Music teacher Carol Allen, nurses Judy Josephs and Susan Male, and parent Steven Brady received Lion's Club recognition for the establishment and oversight of the HHR/FLO K.I.D.S. Club. Also, Karen Montefalco and Tobi Vivienzo initiated a job sharing teaching partnership at the grade 6 level.

At the Olmsted School, fourth grade teacher Jan Tyson received the Lions Club recognition award as Career Educator, while reading specialist Cindy Olson was named for the second year to the DOE MCAS Standard Setting Panel for the grade 6 ELA-Reading Assessment and served on the state-wide MCAS Development Committee. Also, Principal Gary Mazzola was elected to the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Science Teachers and Supervisors Association.

Junior High School Spanish teacher Christine Hochstein completed her Masters Degree Program at Providence College, and physical education teacher Christopher Neely, SPED teacher Kristen Shurtleff, Spanish teacher Maria Vera and mathematics teacher Bonnie Porter completed their Masters Degree programs as well. Also at the secondary level, James Sullivan was selected as chair of the Industrial Technology Department. In addition, high school special education teacher William Knapp was recognized by the Lions Club for his career in special education, while Ron Riley was selected to coordinate the College Gate Program in Hingham and Janice Brockman continued to coordinate the Intermediate Science Olympiad at the Richardson and Olmsted Schools. Also, Kathleen Fowler completed a post baccalaureate program in her field of Science.

CURRICULUM/TECHNOLOGY

The Curriculum Coordinating Council continued its emphasis on aligning the Easton Public Schools curriculum with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks, the district's Strategic Action Plan, and components of standards driven curriculum as performance based assessments. Ten standing curriculum committees are working under the direction of the coordinating council: Mathematics, co-chaired by Vanessa Beauchaine and Mary Romans; Science, chaired by Gary Mazzola, Maria Annunziato and Elaine Clement-Holbrook; English/Language Arts, chaired by Joan Nicholaides, Debra DiCenso and Robert Smith; Health, co-chaired by Kathy Kelly and Elaine Clement-Holbrook; Technology, chaired by Chris Margulies; Physical Education, chaired by Christine Powers; Social Studies, cochaired by Patrick Lucier and Edmund Hands; World Languages, co-chaired by Ron Riley and Bob Smith; Music, chaired by Charlene Dalrymple; and Art, chaired by Christine DiVirgilio.

Several of the committees completed new curriculum documents in 2007 which were approved by the Easton School Committee for implementation. These included the K-6 Science Curriculum, which was realigned with state frameworks and standards with new district-wide assessments developed for each grade level; Physical Education, grades 9 — 12; Science and Health, grades 7 and 8; and, Algebra III and Trigonometry at the high school. The school system completed its curriculum revision cycle in Mathematics (K-8). The Everyday Math program was implemented in grades K-3 for the 2005-2006 school year, the grade 4-6 implementation of the Everyday Math program took place at the Olmsted and Richardson schools in September, 2006 for the 2006-2007 school year, and in September, 2007, grades 7 and 8 implemented the McDougal-Littell program for the Foundations of Pre-Algebra, Pre-Algebra and Algebra I classes.

In the spring of 2007, the expanded version of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) testing program was administered. Students in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10 participated in the MCAS. Following the release of the results in late September, parent meetings were held to disseminate the information and to discuss improvement strategies. Once again, Easton ranked in the top twenty-five percent of all school districts in Massachusetts.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

At Oliver Ames more than 50% of all high school students participated in an athletic activity, and approximately 25% participated in music or drama.

A number of the varsity sports teams did extremely well this past year. In the winter season, the boys' varsity basketball team captured the Hockomock League title, and both the boys' and girls' basketball

teams participated in the State Tournament. The ice hockey team also participated in the State Tournament, completing a successful season with a first round win. Both the boys' and girls' track teams did well in State Tournament competition.

In the spring season, the boys' varsity baseball team, coached by Leo Duggan, won the Division II State Championship, with a no-hitter being pitched for the Tigers in the State Final.

In the fall sports season, the girls' varsity soccer team, led by coach Britt Sellmayer, won the Division II State Championship for the third time in nine years and finished the season with only one loss.

The girls' cross country team won the Hockomock League title, and placed second in the All-State Meet. Individually, Jenna Davidner took third place in the All-State Meet. The boys' cross country team finished second in the Eastern Massachusetts Class Meet, with Mike Moverman individually placing second.

The field hockey team, after finishing second in the Hockomock League, went into the second round of the State Tournament, while both the boys' soccer team and the golf team qualified for State Tournament action.

In addition to the varsity sports teams, students had the opportunity to participate in 14 junior varsity programs, 6 freshman programs and 6 other programs at the junior high school.

The Easton community and various booster groups again made significant contributions to our athletic program, helping to purchase new uniforms and to sponsor end-of-the-year awards banquets. The creation five years ago of the Hall of Fame in Easton also evidenced the wonderful support and direction provided by the residents of the town. The student athletes and coaches of the Easton Public Schools are again extremely appreciative of the emotional, financial and fan support provided by the community.

CONCLUSION

This past year was again a time of significant change and transition within the school system. We continue to be extremely concerned about inadequate State Aid and the availability of appropriate resources to meet the expectations that we have for ourselves and our student population. Nevertheless, we are grateful for our many blessings. We greatly appreciate the support of the Easton community that resulted in the successful passage of the operational override; the School Parent Advisory Councils, School Councils, and our various booster groups; the extraordinary efforts of F.E.E.E. and the S.A.F.E. organization; the hard work and dedication of the School Committee; and, the excellent and cooperative working relationships among all the members of the entire staff as well as between the schools and the town.

Respectfully submitted,

William Simmons
Superintendent of Schools

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

In April's town election, Dawn Boynton was elected to her third, three-year term on the Committee. Jane Martin was elected to a three-year term, filling the position vacated by Jane Pike Benton. Rebecca Turley was appointed, per town charter, by a joint vote of the Board of Selectmen and School Committee, to the vacancy created by Ellen Barlow's election to the Board of Selection.

2007 was a year of significant preparation, planning, and progress.

A budget of \$28,892,356 allowed the school department to continue to move forward in addressing class size, important NEAS&C (New England Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges) recommendations, rising special education costs, and program development. The \$1,890,155 increase over the previous year's budget supported efforts to help our students continue on the road to academic success. The additional funds made possible the implementation of the final phase of the new K-8 mathematics program. New positions in the areas of guidance, mathematics, physical education, and custodial services allowed us to fill critical gaps. We were able to add several elementary aides to assist in first grade classrooms, which were larger than anticipated due an unexpected enrollment increase and to a shortage of space in the primary schools. Finally, two specialized positions were added to address growing special education needs. Unfortunately, escalating utility costs absorbed a portion of the budget increase.

Despite Easton's successful operational override in June of 2006, our per pupil expenditure at \$8362, is approximately \$2000 lower than the state average. We must continue to be creative in our efforts to meet the challenges presented by our relatively low funding per student. Nevertheless, we remain extremely grateful to the citizens of Easton for voting to provide additional financial support for our schools, and we are tremendously proud of our students' many accomplishments and of our extraordinarily talented staff.

As the secondary school projects have moved steadily toward completion, many new and renovated spaces have become available for use. In the soon-to-be-named Easton Middle School, the administrative offices, nurse's office, media center, recital hall, and numerous classrooms are now completed and occupied. At the high school, the new Performing Arts Center, a magnificent accomplishment, has been the venue for a number of theatrical and musical performances. Additionally, administrative offices, the nurse's area, and state-of-the-art science labs have been completed. The secondary school projects were designed to address longstanding over-crowding and to provide a 21st Century educational environment for our children, as well as to create a grade 6-7-8 middle school and grade 9 through 12 high school configuration, which is consistent with most other districts in the Commonwealth. Once again, we must thank the citizens of Easton for providing, through two debt-exclusion overrides, the funding for the enhanced secondary schools that our children will be attending for decades to come.

The committee also owes a debt of gratitude to the members of the Municipal Building Committee, who have given a great deal of their time and expertise to the school projects. The Building Committee has maintained an extraordinary working relationship with the project manager, the architect, numerous contractors, the school administration, and town officials, and this cooperative effort has been crucial to the success of the projects.

In the fall of 2008, children in six of thirteen grades will be entering new school environments. Both the 2nd and 3rd grades in the three primary schools will be moving to the newly configured grade 3 - 5 H. H. Richardson and F. L. Olmsted Schools. The current H. H. Richardson and F. L. Olmsted 5th and 6th

graders will be moving to the new grade 6, 7, 8 Middle School, and the current 8th and 9th graders at Easton Junior High School will be relocating to the expanded Oliver Ames High School. Needless to say, planning for these transitions for both students and teachers has been extensive and challenging. Special committees in every school have been working diligently to ensure as smooth a transition as possible for everyone involved.

During the past year, the School Committee participated in Annual and Special Town Meetings, the Massachusetts Educational Quality and Accountability Audit, the search committee for the new H. H. Richardson School principal, the annual New Teacher Orientation Program, and the Community Vision Initiative. Members of the Committee served on numerous school and town-based committees, including the Budget Subcommittee, the Audit Committee, the Municipal Building Committee, the Foundation for Excellence in Education in Easton, the Campaign for Oliver Ames High School, and the Curriculum Coordinating Council.

The Committee approved a number of new curricula, including the McDougal Littell math program at the Junior High, Algebra III/Trigonometry, the K-6 Science Curriculum, and the Physical Education Curriculum for grades 9 -12. During the year, the Committee renewed the food services contract and extended the central office lease for three years. As part of an administrative reorganization, Michael Green, PhD, was named Assistant Superintendent of Schools, and Allan Duarte was appointed Interim Director of Curriculum and Instruction. The Committee also added the position of Information Systems manager and approved a revised kindergarten screening process. Through the Campaign for Oliver Ames High School, the Committee approved the naming of the Oliver Ames High School gymnasium in honor of Mr. William F. Nixon.

The Committee sponsored a warrant at the Special Town Meeting seeking funds for final design and construction documents for the reconstruction of the Muscato Stadium, after the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board designated the stadium bleachers non-compliant, requiring their complete removal. An advocacy group, the Friends of the Easton Athletic Complex, has been formed to seek funding from a variety of sources for a field project that would include accessible bleachers and press box, a new track, and an artificial turf field.

Easton students continue to perform well both academically and in a wide range of extra-curricular and co-curricular areas. All seniors met the MCAS graduation requirement, as they have every year since its inception. Combined "Advanced" and "Proficient" MCAS test scores across the district continue to exceed state averages. Ninety-seven per cent of the 2007 Oliver Ames High School graduating class went on to pursue higher education, with 91 per cent enrolling in four-year colleges and universities, and six per cent attending community colleges, nursing schools, or technical institutes. Our students continue to score above the national average on the SATs and to attend highly regarded colleges. Approximately 75 per cent of students taking advanced placement courses have achieved test scores that have entitled them to college credit. In addition to receiving numerous awards for academic achievements, many of our students were recognized for outstanding accomplishments in music, visual arts, and athletics. Both the Oliver Ames boys' varsity baseball team and the Oliver Ames girls' varsity soccer team won Division II State Championships during the year.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the families of two of our students, Robert Castro and Aaron Ortiz, who both died as the result of tragic accidents.

The School Committee is tremendously grateful for the extensive support that parents and other members of the community provide to our students on a daily basis. Volunteerism in the schools is at an all-time high. Parents and others offer instructional support in the classroom; School Councils in each of our seven

schools spend countless hours addressing the individual needs of their schools and developing annual School Improvement Plans to submit to the School Committee for approval; Parent Advisory Councils and booster clubs provide, through their fund-raising, important enhancements to our academic and extra-curricular programs. FEEE, the Foundation for Excellence in Education in Easton, raised over \$80,000 at its annual dinner dance to fund technology and teacher grants.

Our appreciation and best wishes go to retirees Sherrie Banchiere, Carolyn Belmore, Dale Erikson, Phyllis Gage, Sandra Harrington, William Karas, Katherine Kenney, Vincent Mack, Lois Miller, Linn Peterson, Lena Pine, Dr. Nancy Sullivan, Anne Thomas, Marguerite Turcotte, Jan Tyson, and Kathleen Williams.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Marie Boynton, Chair

Caroline S. O'Neill, Vice-Chair

William P. Braun

Jane Martin

Rebecca Turley

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ralph Armstead, School Committee Member

Overview

The Southeastern Regional School District offers twenty-six vocational/technical training programs at its four-year high school and full-year post-secondary program at the Southeastern Technical Institute. On October 1, 2006, there were 1,190 students enrolled in the high school, 132 adults were enrolled in the day program and over 300 attended the many evening programs. There are 67 students attending from Easton.

High School

The Southeastern Regional High School offers twenty-one vocational-technical programs for the high school students who attend the school from Brockton, East Bridgewater, Easton, Foxborough, Mansfield, Norton, Sharon, Stoughton and West Bridgewater. The school's mission is to unite our learning community by teaching and developing the skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary to lead lives of responsibility and achievement.

Southeastern Regional High School graduated 239 students last June and had 98% of the seniors pass the state required MCAS test. The Class of 2007 graduates had ninety-eight percent placement in full-time jobs, the military or post-secondary education.

Southeastern academics have continued to be strengthened over the past year. Tenth grade MCAS scores in mathematics went up 6%, and English scores have risen as well. Southeastern sent their first teacher to advanced placement training in order to plan for AP Literature and Composition. Additionally, physics was added as a science class for seniors, and junior/senior remediation courses were added for students who have not yet passed MCAS. In terms of curriculum, Southeastern has further developed district-level common assessments across content areas, and continues to focus on using data to revise curriculum and provide individual student support.

The school has a new website (www.sersd.org) and is proud of the technology available to the students and faculty. The current student to computer ratio is 1.4 to 1. The school is also proud of the many SmartBoards which are available in the classrooms to facilitate teaching our students by captivating their attention.

The Program Advisory Committees, comprised of industry representatives, parents and students, met in the fall and spring to discuss and provide recommendations to assist the high school and Technical Institute to stay current with technology and other progress in their fields.

Southeastern Regional, like other district high schools, offers a wide range of interscholastic sports programs at all levels for boys and girls and competes in the Mayflower League. In the fall of 2006, one of our students won the State Vocational Cross Country Championship and then competed and placed in the top 50 of the nation in the Junior Olympics held in Oregon. The boys' basketball team was the Boys' Mayflower League undefeated champions with a 16-0 record and lost the South Sectional Championship game to the defending state champions. The school began a lacrosse club team last year and plans to have a Varsity lacrosse team competing in this year's Massachusetts Vocational Lacrosse League.

Tech Prep, a program designed to provide students with a wide variety of activities and opportunities to explore postsecondary educational options as well as career opportunities, had over 200 participants. They participated in such varied activities as career and college workshops, college placement testing and admissions counseling, leadership training, college and business tours and summer technology camp. Many students completed college courses after school through programs at Massasoit Community College.

and Bristol Community College as well as during the summer. Southeastern students matriculating at post-secondary institutions were also eligible for articulated credit. Tech Prep's initiatives, open to all registered students with good academic and behavioral records at Southeastern, seek to encourage students to make choices academically and in their vocational programs that will lead to successful college and career experiences.

There are also many extra curricular activities such as clubs, community service programs, and the traditional honor societies to assist students in our nine communities to develop mind and body. Several Southeastern students medaled in the Massachusetts SkillsUSA district and state competitions. The SkillsUSA state president is a student at Southeastern.

Technical Institute

Southeastern Technical Institute, the adult and community educational component of the Southeastern Regional School District, provides five full-time day diploma programs, five part-time diploma and certificate programs, and three semesters of evening school classes each year to the southeast communities. STI serves over 132 adults in the day programs and over 300 adults in the evening programs. The school's mission is to provide adults with the education and skills for gainful, meaningful employment. To accomplish this, STI is constantly investigating new and emerging career paths, working with community agencies and employers to define the skills needed for employment in a career field with employment potential, advancement, and growth.

The evening school has classes scheduled Monday through Thursday. We continue to recruit new evening school teachers and look for new programs. Classes range from one-night seminars to two and three night per week courses. Last year, we again offered computer courses for the senior citizens of the district.

Two new programs were developed in 2006 and are now in the implementation phase. The Massage Therapy program began in October with seven students. The program met three nights per week and some Saturdays. The first class graduated in late June, 2007. Also, a Health Claims Specialist program is being developed with introductory classes in Medical Terminology, Anatomy and Physiology and Introduction to Medical Coding offered in the Evening School program brochure.

Southeastern Technical Institute also worked closely with area businesses offering customized training to meet the needs of area companies in Machine Technology, CNC, Electrical and Plumbing apprenticeship classes, Electronics, and HVAC. More and more companies are recognizing the valuable resources of the expert teaching staff and facilities available at STI.

Southeastern has also partnered with community agencies such as CareerWorks, Pine Street Inn, Mass Rehab, Displaced Homemakers, Department of Employment and Training, and the Workforce Investment Board offering educational programs in Machine technology, carpentry, plumbing and HVAC.

Southeastern students and staff have completed thousands of hours in community service as part of their educational experience. The Practical Nursing programs, both day and evening, Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting, Administrative Office Technology, and Massage Therapy all have internships/clinical experiences as part of the curriculum requirement for graduation.

Southeastern Technical Institute is developing a new image campaign and logo. We are now STI, with a new blue and white logo and our slogans, "How Much Are You Worth?" and "Your Career Begins Today". The STI logo and slogan are featured in all our ads, publications, and our new website (ti.sersd.org).

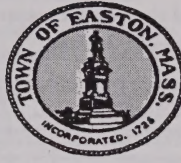
The 2006 – 2007 school year brought much recognition to STI. The school year began with a national accrediting team from the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation evaluating the Dental Assisting program and gave the program a perfect score and recertified the program for ten years. In June, a Dental Assisting student, Beverly Hutchins, was chosen as the Post- Secondary Student of the Year for the state of Massachusetts.

**Report of the Town Collector
for the Year Ending June 30, 2007**

	Uncollected Taxes June 30, 2006	Commitments	Abatements Adjustments & Disclaimers	Tranfers to Tax Title	Collections, Net of Refunds	Uncollected Taxes June 30, 2007
Personal Property						
Prior Years	2,258	-	348	-		1,910
2004	3,137	-	1,052	-		2,085
2005	8,809		1,873		59	6,877
2006	6,554				697	5,857
2007	-	351,985	878		349,753	1,354
	<u>\$ 20,758</u>	<u>\$ 351,985</u>	<u>\$ 4,152</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 350,508</u>	<u>\$ 18,083</u>
Real Estate						
Prior Years	(15,472)	-	-	-	-	(15,472)
2005	6,194		-	2,734	3,460	0
2006	421,627	83,441	-	109,781	394,494	793
2007	-	35,713,649	174,864	135,456	34,901,057	502,273
	<u>\$ 412,349</u>	<u>\$ 35,797,090</u>	<u>\$ 174,864</u>	<u>\$ 247,971</u>	<u>\$ 35,299,010</u>	<u>\$ 487,594</u>
Motor Vehicle Excise						
Prior years	74,301	-	23	-	2,469	71,809
2004	27,681	-	3,989	-	4,123	19,569
2005	55,719	1,151	6,331		27,622	22,917
2006	243,207	354,545	32,528		506,580	58,644
2007	-	2,669,536	89,153		2,228,246	352,138
	<u>\$ 400,908</u>	<u>\$ 3,025,232</u>	<u>\$ 132,024</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,769,040</u>	<u>\$ 525,077</u>
Water Rates and Services						
	<u>\$ 251,272</u>	<u>\$ 3,017,790</u>		<u>\$ 161,019</u>	<u>\$ 2,833,332</u>	<u>\$ 274,711</u>

**Report of the Town Treasurer
July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007**

Bank Accounts	Balance 30, 2006	June	+ Receipts	-Payments	Balance 2007	June 30,
Cash - includes general fund, capitol projects, special revenues, enterprise funds, and agency funds	\$ 21,543,332.25	\$	115,858,860.34	\$ 119,806,683.99	\$	17,595,508.60
Trust Funds						
Stabilization Fund	\$ 1,588,236.82	\$	563,428.76	\$ 100,000.00	\$	2,051,665.58
Conservation Fund	\$ 920,640.91	\$	46,434.99	\$ 98,135.00	\$	868,940.90
Unemployment Compensation	\$ 78,582.54	\$	3,888.66	\$ 20,832.00	\$	61,639.20
Police Forefeiture Account	\$ 7,128.97	\$	70.88		\$	7,199.85
Law Enforcement Trust Fund	\$ 7,315.33	\$	387.38	\$ 387.38	\$	7,315.33
Mary Stone Library Fund	\$ 5,792.92	\$	166.90		\$	5,959.82
Subtotal	\$ 2,607,697.49	\$	614,377.57	\$ 219,354.38	\$	3,002,720.68
Scholarship Funds						
Ellen Atwood	\$ 2,162.45	\$	62.30		\$	2,224.75
Parker Ames	\$ 113,858.81	\$	22,689.61	\$ 3,000.00	\$	133,548.42
Mary A. Stone	\$ 6,408.57	\$	184.63		\$	6,593.20
World War Memorial	\$ 52,544.82	\$	2,165.39	\$ 2,300.00	\$	52,410.21
Young	\$ 3,241.02	\$	93.38		\$	3,334.40
Subtotal	\$ 178,215.67	\$	25,195.31	\$ 5,300.00	\$	198,110.98
Cemetery Perpetual Care Funds						
Furnace Village Cemetery	\$ 22,511.72	\$	648.58		\$	23,160.30
Pine Grove Cemetery	\$ 3,939.50	\$	113.50		\$	4,053.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 7,953.50	\$	229.15		\$	8,182.65
South Easton	\$ 10,359.45	\$	298.46		\$	10,657.91
Unionville & Town Cemeteries	\$ 13,873.42	\$	399.71		\$	14,273.13
Subtotal	\$ 58,637.59	\$	1,689.40	\$ -	\$	60,326.99
Total Cash	\$ 24,387,883.00	\$	116,500,122.62	\$ 120,031,338.37	\$	20,856,667.25



ANNUAL REPORT OF TAX TITLE

Balance - June 30, 2006

\$650,695.23

Additions:

New Tax Takings FY 06	\$	116,692.56
New Tax Takings FY 05 Supplemental	\$	2,734.22
Subsequent Year "07"	\$	137,655.48
Additional Fees & Interest Added to New Takings	\$	29,440.51

Deductions:

Redemptions:	\$	283,340.61
Abatements:	\$	147.05
Town Possessions:	\$	79,717.81

Balance - June 30, 2007

\$574,012.53

Annual Report of the Town Treasurer/Collector
Debt Statement

FY2007

Long Term Debt Inside the Debt Limit	Outstanding July 1, 2006	+ New Debt Issued	- Retirements	= Outstanding June 30, 2007	Interest Paid in FY2007
Buildings	100,000.00		20,000.00	80,000.00	4,410.00
Departmental Equipment	0.00	250,000.00	0.00	250,000.00	3,165.00
School Buildings	175,000.00	20,000,000.00	100,000.00	20,075,000.00	263,477.00
School - All Other	1,615,000.00		95,000.00	1,520,000.00	58,378.00
Sewer	258,824.00		25,677.00	233,147.00	5,668.00
Solid Waste	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Inside	1,963,680.00	2,198,260.00	753,680.00	3,408,260.00	110,822.00

SUB - TOTAL Inside	\$4,112,504.00	\$22,448,260.00	\$994,357.00	\$25,566,407.00	\$445,920.00
--------------------	----------------	-----------------	--------------	-----------------	--------------

Long Term Debt Outside the Debt Limit	Outstanding July 1, 2006	+ New Debt Issued	- Retirements	= Outstanding June 30, 2007	Interest Paid in FY2007
Airport	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gas/Electric Utility	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
School Buildings	15,215,000.00	12,915,000.00	14,100,000.00	14,030,000.00	558,871.00
Sewer	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Solid Waste	4,260,000.00	876,740.00	1,150,000.00	3,986,740.00	163,661.00
Water	1,706,320.00	2,140,000.00	376,320.00	3,470,000.00	89,297.00
Other Outside	107,028.00	0.00	7,657.00	99,371.00	5,564.00

SUB - TOTAL Outside	\$21,288,348.00	\$15,931,740.00	\$15,633,977.00	\$21,586,111.00	\$817,393.00
---------------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	--------------

TOTAL Long Term Debt	\$25,400,852.00	\$38,380,000.00	\$16,628,334.00	\$47,152,518.00	\$1,263,313.00
----------------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	----------------

Short Term Debt	Outstanding July 1, 2006	+ Issued	- Retired	= Outstanding June 30, 2007	Interest Paid in FY2007
-----------------	-----------------------------	----------	-----------	--------------------------------	----------------------------

RANs - Revenue Anticipation				0.00	
BANs - Bond Anticipation:					
Buildings		664,000.00		664,000.00	
School Buildings	20,000,000.00	6,367,000.00	20,000,000.00	6,367,000.00	847,639.00
Sewer				0.00	
Water	2,110,000.00	0.00	211,000.00	0.00	38,261.00
Other BANs	2,881,000.00	550,000.00	2,881,000.00	550,000.00	93,655.00
SANs - State Grant Anticipation				0.00	
FANs - Federal Gr. Anticipation				0.00	
Other Short Term Debt				0.00	

TOTAL Short Term Debt	\$24,991,000.00	\$7,581,000.00	\$23,092,000.00	\$7,581,000.00	\$979,555.00
-----------------------	-----------------	----------------	-----------------	----------------	--------------

GRAND TOTAL All Debt	\$50,391,852.00	\$45,961,000.00	\$39,720,334.00	\$54,733,518.00	\$2,242,868.00
----------------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	----------------

Authorized and Unissued Debt					
Purpose	Date of Vote	Article Number	Amount Authorized	- Issued - Retired - Rescinded	= Unissued 6/30/2007
Water Mains	04/10/95	19	1,500,000.00	1,500,000.00	0.00
Library	4/8/96 & 9/7/06	7 & 4	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	0.00
Library	09/07/06	4	700,000.00	664,000.00	36,000.00
Septic WMPAT	05/11/98	60	200,000.00	137,657.00	62,343.00
Sewer	11/22/99	16	350,000.00	350,000.00	0.00
Water Addition	06/04/01	8	150,000.00	0.00	150,000.00
Library Access Rd	05/20/02	12	400,000.00	0.00	400,000.00
School	01/13/03	22	66,000,000.00	53,372,391.00	12,627,609.00
Departmental Equipment	06/09/03	16	620,000.00	620,000.00	0.00
School	12/07/04	5	13,525,935.00	0.00	13,525,935.00
Dean St Land Acq	09/26/05	12	1,750,000.00	1,750,000.00	0.00
Bay Road Land Acq	09/26/05	11	700,000.00	700,000.00	0.00
Water Tank	06/12/06	28	600,000.00	450,000.00	150,000.00
School Repair	06/12/06	28	367,000.00	367,000.00	0.00
Capital Improvements	05/21/07	23	425,000.00		425,000.00
					\$27,376,887.00

SUB - TOTAL from additional sheet(s)	\$0.00
--------------------------------------	--------

TOTAL Authorized and Unissued Debt	\$27,376,887.00
------------------------------------	-----------------

Short Term Debt Report by Issuance	Outstanding July 1, 2006	+ Issued	- Retired	= Outstanding June 30, 2007	Interest Paid in FY2007
	20,000,000.00		20,000,000.00	0.00	847,639.00
	700,000.00		700,000.00	0.00	26,133.00
	1,475,000.00		1,475,000.00	0.00	56,603.00
	550,000.00		550,000.00	0.00	14,135.00
	900,000.00		900,000.00	0.00	13,919.00
	120,000.00		120,000.00	0.00	1,856.00
	366,000.00		366,000.00	0.00	5,660.00
	340,000.00		340,000.00	0.00	5,258.00
	540,000.00		540,000.00	0.00	8,351.00
		100,000.00		100,000.00	
		6,000,000.00		6,000,000.00	
		450,000.00		450,000.00	
		367,000.00		367,000.00	
		664,000.00		664,000.00	
				0.00	
				0.00	
TOTAL	24,991,000.00	7,581,000.00	24,991,000.00	7,581,000.00	979,554.00

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Wendy V. Nightingale, Town Accountant
Adilia Collazo, Assistant Town Accountant
Margaret Horne, Principal Clerk
TEL: (508) 230-0560
FAX: (508) 230-0569
E-Mail: wnightingale@easton.ma.us

I hereby submit the report of the Town Accountant for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, which includes the balance sheet as of that date and the statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund equity.

The office of the Town Accountant is responsible for the accounting and control of all town funds, disbursements, and financial records in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, the Massachusetts Department of Revenue and by-laws of the Town of Easton. In addition, responsibilities include maintenance of the Town's general ledger system including detailed records of cash receipts, appropriations and expenditures, and the closing of all financial books at the end of the fiscal year. The Town Accountant prepares financial statements and reports, assists in the preparation of the Town budget and works with the independent auditors on the annual financial and compliance audit.

Our annual audit for the fiscal year was completed by Melanson, Heath & Company, PC of Andover, Massachusetts. We received an unqualified or "clean" opinion from them.

My former assistant, Elizabeth "Betty" Morgan retired in early 2007 after 32 years of employment with the Town. I thank Betty for her dedication and wish her well in her retirement. Adilia Collazo, formerly the principal clerk, has assumed the role of assistant and is doing a great job. We also welcomed Margaret "Peg" Horne to our department as the new principal clerk. Peg was formerly the Zoning Board of Appeals secretary and is doing well in her new role.

I would especially like to thank my staff and all the Town Departments, Boards, Commissions and Committees for their cooperation and support this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy V. Nightingale
Town Accountant

TOWN OF EASTON, MASSACHUSETTS
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUP
JUNE 30, 2007

ASSETS

	Governmental Fund Types		Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	Account Group		Total
	General	Special Revenue	Enterprise	Trust and Agency	General	Long-Term Debt	(Memorandum Only)
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 6,602,924.03	\$ 8,268,596.05	\$ (584,262.22)	\$ 4,649,650.03	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,856,667.20
Receivables							
Real estate taxes	494,931.80	21,174.63	-	-	-	-	516,106.43
Personal property taxes	18,055.37	-	-	-	-	-	18,055.37
Tax liens and foreclosures	927,657.13	-	-	-	-	-	927,657.13
Water user charges receivable	-	-	1,064,759.41	-	-	-	1,064,759.41
Water liens	-	-	13,683.27	-	-	-	13,683.27
Bellefleur	-	49,379.37	-	-	-	-	107,348.52
Trash collection fees receivable	-	-	31,593.60	-	-	-	31,593.60
Motor vehicle excise and other excise	525,075.90	-	-	-	-	-	525,075.90
Departmental and other	504,685.64	-	-	-	-	-	597,651.94
Intergovernmental	(545,934.65)	760,218.47	6,659,584.00	-	-	-	7,419,802.47
Allowance for abatements and exemptions	-	-	-	-	-	-	(545,934.65)
Inventory	-	-	71,388.24	-	-	-	71,388.24
Fixed assets, net	-	-	34,403,383.82	-	-	-	34,403,383.82
Other assets	99.00	-	-	-	-	-	99.00
Amount to be provided for payment of long-term obligations	-	-	-	-	43,118,730.28	-	43,118,730.28
Total Assets	\$ 8,527,494.22	\$ 9,192,334.82	\$ 6,075,321.78	\$ 37,564,536.80	\$ 43,118,730.28	\$ 4,649,650.03	\$ 109,128,067.93

LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY

Liabilities:							
Warrants payable	\$ 504,129.18	\$ 70,634.08	\$ 1,162,107.93	\$ 134,012.51	\$ 25,748.12	\$ -	\$ 1,896,631.82
Accrued liabilities	560,454.70	23,894.89	-	40,026.60	1,700.00	-	626,076.19
Retainage Payable	-	-	3,026,781.98	-	-	-	3,026,781.98
Deferred revenue	1,924,471.19	923,738.77	-	31,593.60	-	-	2,879,803.56
Tax refunds payable	105,916.51	1,314.72	-	-	-	-	107,231.23
Other liabilities	168,750.11	750.43	-	72,117.00	1,362,190.27	-	1,603,807.81
Notes payable	-	-	7,031,000.00	550,000.00	-	-	7,581,000.00
General long-term debt	-	-	4,004,529.50	-	-	-	47,121,259.78
Total Liabilities	3,263,721.69	1,020,332.89	11,219,889.91	4,832,279.21	1,889,638.39	43,118,730.28	64,844,592.37
Fund Equity:							
Contributed capital	-	-	-	18,266,600.00	-	-	18,266,600.00
Retained earnings:							
Reserved	-	-	-	310,360.79	-	-	310,360.79
Unreserved	-	-	-	14,155,296.80	-	-	14,155,296.80
Fund Balances:							
Reserved for encumbrances	316,174.12	-	-	-	-	-	316,174.12
Reserved for continuing appropriations	272,988.88	1,725,083.56	-	-	-	-	1,998,072.44
Reserved for expenditures	901,558.00	77,000.00	-	-	109,930.00	-	1,088,488.00
Reserved for nonexpendable trust principal	-	-	-	-	74,295.69	-	74,295.69
Reserved for unexpended exempt debt	1,149,728.10	-	-	-	-	-	1,149,728.10
Reserved for petty cash	600.00	-	-	-	-	-	600.00
Unreserved	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Undesignated	2,622,773.43	6,369,918.37	(5,144,568.13)	-	3,075,785.95	-	6,923,859.62
Total Fund Equity	5,263,172.53	8,172,001.93	(5,144,568.13)	32,732,257.59	3,260,011.64	-	44,283,475.56
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	\$ 8,527,494.22	\$ 9,192,334.82	\$ 6,075,321.78	\$ 37,564,536.80	\$ 43,118,730.28	\$ 4,649,650.03	\$ 109,128,067.93

TOWN OF EASTON, MASSACHUSETTS
COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND EQUITY
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2007

	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type		Account Group	Total (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects		Trust and Agency	General Long-Term Debt		
Revenues								
Property taxes	\$ 35,937,273.39	\$ 830,482.86	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,767,756.25
Excise taxes	2,771,419.55	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,771,419.55
Penalties, interest & fines	230,939.30	2,299.68	-	33,716.95	-	-	-	266,955.93
Licenses, permits and fees	863,999.93	-	-	-	-	-	-	863,999.93
Investment income	334,376.40	158,699.18	-	90,007.66	140,874.88	-	-	723,958.12
Departmental	522,810.00	1,598,838.89	-	-	-	-	-	2,119,648.89
Intergovernmental - state	12,426,935.31	1,796,024.87	14,553,194.00	12,675.13	-	-	-	28,788,829.31
Intergovernmental - federal	-	1,107,143.44	-	-	-	-	-	1,107,143.44
User charges	408,996.11	807,015.03	-	3,129,394.78	-	-	-	3,936,409.81
Other	-	-	-	16,260.75	-	-	-	425,256.86
	53,496,749.99	6,298,503.95	14,553,194.00	3,282,055.27	140,874.88	-	-	77,771,378.09
Expenditures								
General government	11,043,282.80	99,464.93	-	-	18,600.29	-	-	11,161,348.02
Public safety	6,046,658.95	540,004.27	640.94	-	450.00	-	-	6,587,754.16
Education	27,482,633.46	2,604,917.78	21,278,231.80	-	5,300.00	-	-	51,371,083.04
Public works	2,381,681.76	562,290.20	73,517.22	-	-	-	-	3,017,489.18
Water	-	-	-	2,127,330.03	-	-	-	2,127,330.03
Human services	637,453.16	40,895.77	-	-	-	-	-	678,348.93
Culture and recreation	444,984.92	50,400.00	699,171.26	-	-	-	-	1,194,556.18
Debt service	3,720,302.87	266,671.69	-	181,113.25	-	-	-	4,168,087.81
State and county assessments	650,142.74	-	-	-	-	-	-	650,142.74
Capital outlay	295,145.77	-	-	-	-	-	-	295,145.77
	52,702,286.43	4,164,644.64	22,051,561.22	2,308,443.28	24,350.29	-	-	81,251,285.86
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	794,463.56	2,133,859.31	(7,498,367.22)	973,611.99	116,524.59	-	-	(3,479,907.77)
Other financing sources (uses):								
Proceeds from long-term borrowing	-	1,420,000.00	20,490,000.00	-	-	-	-	21,910,000.00
Transfers between funds	449,673.56	(514,785.56)	311,000.00	(547,753.00)	301,865.00	-	-	-
	449,673.56	905,214.44	20,801,000.00	(547,753.00)	301,865.00	-	-	21,910,000.00
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures and other uses	1,244,137.12	3,039,073.75	13,302,632.78	425,858.99	418,389.59	-	-	18,430,092.23
Beginning fund equity	4,019,635.41	5,132,928.18	(18,447,200.91)	32,306,398.60	2,841,622.05	-	-	25,853,383.33
Ending fund equity	\$ 5,263,772.53	\$ 8,172,001.93	\$ (5,144,568.13)	\$ 32,732,257.59	\$ 3,260,011.64	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 44,283,475.56

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Calendar Year 2007

The Audit Committee's primary functions are as follows:

1. Make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen on the selection of, and scope of services for, an independent auditor.
2. Review the annual financial statements and management reports prepared by the independent auditor and make recommendations with respect thereto.
3. Make recommendations for areas of operations where expended scope audits or review of the internal controls may be appropriate.
4. Review and make recommendations with respect to the Town's financial management practices and controls; through the Town Administrator, review with appropriate boards and departments opportunities to improve such practices and controls.
5. Report to the Board of Selectmen on the status of recommendations the Committee and/or independent auditor has made during the preceding twelve months.

To that end, our committee held four meetings during the year ended December 31, 2007. During the year, our Committee was comprised of 1 member of the Board of Selectmen, 1 member of the Finance Committee, 1 member of the School Committee, and 1 At-Large member. The Town's Accountant, Wendy Nightingale also attended all meetings.

In February, the Committee met with a representative from the Town's independent audit firm, Melanson Heath & Company, PC., and reviewed a draft of the annual audited financial statements of the Town for the year ended June 30, 2006. Also at that meeting, the Committee reviewed the status of several issues and related recommendations as outlined in the Management Letter issued by the auditors, and noted the Town's on-going efforts to address those recommendations as described by the Town Accountant.

In May, the Committee held two meetings for the purpose of analyzing the proposals for auditing services for the years ended June 30, 2007, 2008 & 2009. In the second meeting, the Committee voted unanimously to select Melanson Heath & Company, P.C. as our auditors for those years. This decision was reached based on our past experience with the firm, their reputation within the profession, and the fee quoted for the scope of the work outlined.

In October, the Committee met with the Town Accountant and reviewed a brief summary of the Town's overall accounting systems presently in place. The Chair followed up this discussion with the Town's Information Systems Manager, Mike Deltano, and received a brief overview of the Town's computerized networking system. This topic will be further addressed in the new year in conjunction with the Town's audit for the year ended June 30, 2007.

Please note that the Committee nominated and elected new officers and also welcomed Jane Martin, our newest appointment from the School Committee, and thanked Jane Pike Benton for her outstanding service to the Town and our committee. Furthermore, the Chair wishes to extend a note of gratitude to all the members of the Audit Committee for their diligent efforts and impeccable attendance. The current members and officers of the Town of Easton Audit Committee are as follows:

Jonathan J. Pike, Chair, Appointed by the Finance Committee
Charles P. King, Vice Chair, Appointed by the Board of Selectmen
Brenda DeCosta, Secretary, Member At-Large
Jane Martin, Appointed by the School Committee

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan J. Pike, CPA

REPORT OF ANNUAL AUDIT

The Annual Audit of the Books and Accounts of the Town of Easton for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2007 was made by Melanson Heath & Company, PC, Certified Public Accountants. A copy of the report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC
Town Clerk

2007 REPORT OF THE CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE FISCAL 2008 CAPITAL BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

The Capital Planning Committee met regularly from October 2006 through January of 2007 to review the capital needs of Town departments. The Committee classified the fiscal 2008 requests based on the evaluation criteria below. Once all items were classified, they were given a priority order within that classification. The Committee did not assign classifications or priorities to requests in fiscal years beyond fiscal 2008.

Fiscal 2008 Capital Improvement Prioritization List

The Committee classified the departmental requests based on the following evaluation criteria. The number below corresponds to the "Class" number assigned on the priority list:

1. Imminent threat to the health and safety of citizens or property
2. Improvement of a capital asset to facilitate maintenance of operations, not to include ordinary maintenance; these are intended to be expenditures that will avoid costly replacement in the future
3. Requirement of state or federal law or regulation
4. Improvement of infrastructure
5. Improvement of productivity
6. Alleviation of an overburdened situation

All requests were first assigned a class number, which takes first priority in the overall ranking system. Items within each class were then ranked in order of importance resulting in the attached priority listing. Items assigned with an "O" were given other, separate consideration because they would use other funding sources such as grants and water enterprise revenue or surplus water revenue. No priority number was assigned to those items. The committee recommends funding all such requests at the annual town meeting. Fiscal 2008 requests totaled \$2,776,684. Requests totaling \$2,053,884 were classified according to the list above, \$194,700 were classified as "other," \$393,000 were not recommended for reasons stated in the report and \$135,100 were given no classification for reasons stated in the report.

The Committee found it difficult this year to assign classifications to certain requests. Requests involving safety issues were given a classification of "one" although the safety issues may not necessarily have posed an "imminent threat." The Committee will re-examine the evaluation criteria categories in the upcoming year and determine if any by-law changes will be necessary.

The Committee noted the overwhelming maintenance needs for Town buildings contained in the overall five year plan. We recommend that the Town review as a whole, all capital requests as they relate to building repairs, maintenance, construction, etc. for the next five years and consider alternatives that may be utilized, particularly cost/benefit analysis, and have the results ready for the May 2008 annual town meeting.

In addition, the Committee felt strongly that it was more appropriate for items such as school textbooks and copiers, which are replaced every year on a rotating schedule, to be funded out of the operating budget as they have been in the past. The Committee did make an exception last year prior to the passage of the operational override, but it was made with caution that such items would not become routinely funded through the capital budget process.

Five-Year Capital Plan

The five-year capital plan is attached to this report¹. The plan is sorted first by the fiscal 2008 assigned priorities and then by department for the remaining fiscal years.

¹Due to sizing limitations, the five-year plan is not included in this Town Report. Funding recommendations for FY08 as voted at town meeting are included on the following pages. A full copy of the five-year plan may be obtained from the Town Clerk's Office.

Other Matters

The committee is made up of the following members: Sharyn Katz, Chair (at-large), Mark Carpentier, Vice Chair (at-large), Steve Delano (Finance Committee), Christine Santoro (Planning Board) and Wendy Nightingale (Town Accountant). Charles Morgan and Bruce Baker both resigned from the Committee in September 2006 and we have been unable to fill those positions. We thank Charlie and Bruce for their valuable insights and years of service to the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Nightingale
February 20, 2007

**TOWN OF EASTON
CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
FY 08 CAPITAL BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS**

Department	Class	Capital Planning Priority	Brief Description of Item	Initial Inclusion Date	FY'2008 Requested	FY'2008 Recommended/ Funded ⁽¹⁾
DPW-Police/Fire #1	1	1	Repair Flat Roof	3/13/2001	15,000	15,000
School Dept	1	2	SPED Van Replacement	9/30/2005	40,000	40,000
DPW-Center St	1	3	Replace fencing around the property.	3/13/2001	50,000	50,000
POLICE	1	4	Replace One Police Cruiser	FY 2007	27,913	27,913
DPW-Moreau Hall	1	5	New Cafeteria Tables (8) <i>Existing tables are old and difficult to repair as hardware has become worn and stripped in some areas. Benches are coming off, representing a safety issue.</i>	3/13/2001	11,200	11,200
DPW-Center Sch	2	1	Replace existing boilers. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS FUNDING ONE BOILER REPLACEMENT AT EITHER MOREAU HALL, PARKVIEW SCHOOL OR CENTER SCHOOL.	3/13/2001	175,000	175,000
DPW-Moreau Hall	2	1	Replace existing boilers. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS FUNDING ONE BOILER REPLACEMENT AT EITHER MOREAU HALL, PARKVIEW SCHOOL OR CENTER SCHOOL.	3/13/2001	150,000	
DPW-Parkview	2	1	Replace existing boilers, includes removal of asbestos in boiler room and reinsulate. (abatement) COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS FUNDING ONE BOILER REPLACEMENT AT EITHER MOREAU HALL, PARKVIEW SCHOOL OR CENTER SCHOOL.	3/13/2001	175,000	
DPW-Center St	2	2	Re-roof building. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS FUNDING ONE ROOF REPLACEMENT AT EITHER CENTER STREET OR FIRE STATION #3, WHICHEVER IS IN GREATER NEED.	3/13/2001	250,000	250,000
DPW-Fire St #3	2	2	Install rigid roof insulation & replace roof shingles, install shed vents at hip roof. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS FUNDING ONE ROOF REPLACEMENT AT EITHER CENTER STREET OR FIRE STATION #3, WHICHEVER IS IN GREATER NEED.	3/13/2001	193,000	
DPW-Police/Fire #1	2	3	New concrete pad at entrance to fire station.	3/13/2001	40,000	40,000
Town Clerk	2	4	Lucid Upgrade/Voting Machines	2007	16,765	16,765
Fire	3	1	8 Automatic Defibrillators	10/16/2006	20,000	20,000
School Dept	3	2	Student Database Hardware/Software	9/30/2005	100,000	100,000
DPW-Bldg & Grounds	5	1	Log Truck - replace Vehicle =34 w/plow (1986 Ford)		110,000	110,000
DPW-Highway	5	2	Front Loader - replace Vehicle =62 (1994 Caterpillar) - COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS FUNDING OF \$100,000, WHICH IS NET OF TRADE		120,000	100,000
DPW-Highway	5	3	1-Ton Dump Truck with Sander & Plow - replace Vehicle =7 (1995 Ford)		60,000	60,000
Fire	5	4	New Technology (for electronic ambulance trip reports)	5/28/2001	15,000	15,000
DPW-Highway	5	5	Utility Vehicle - replace Vehicle =40 (1995 Ford)		45,000	40,000
POLICE	5	6	Replace Unmarked Taurus Cruiser	FY 2007	23,006	23,006
Fire	5	7	Fire Prevention Vehicle	5/20/2003	26,000	26,000
Building Inspection	5	8	Ford 2007 Compact Pickup, 4WD	FY 07	15,000	15,000
Board of Health	5	9	PICKUP TRUCK - REPLACE 1994 FORD RANGER	FY07	16,000	16,000
Data Processing	5	10	G.I.S.	3/1/2005	300,000	
Town Clerk	6	1	Attic Project (archival of records)- King Information Systems	2006	45,000	45,000
DPW-Bldg & Grounds	6	2	Field Line Painter (1997)		15,000	15,000
Fire	6	NR	Ambulance # 2 (1999) (COMMITTEE WILL REVIST THIS REQUEST WHEN INCREASED STAFFING LEVELS PERMIT THE USE OF TWO AMBULANCES ON A REGULAR BASIS)	4/1/2000	180,000	
Fire	6	NR	Fire Station # 2 Rehab./New Construction (PENDING ENGINEERING STUDY)	3/1/2004	25,000	
DPW-Town Office	6	NR	New High Efficiency Boiler & Controls (PENDING STUDY AS RECOMMENDED BY COMMITTEE)	9/28/2005	150,000	
DPW-Fire St #2	6	NR	New Boiler (PENDING ENGINEERING STUDY, NOT RECOMMENDED AT THIS TIME)	3/13/2001	20,000	
POLICE	NC	NR	Replace One Motorcycle (NOT RECOMMENDED FOR SAFETY REASONS)	FY 2007	18,000	
DPW-Fire St #2	NC		Engineering Study to recommend building improvements (DOES NOT MEET CAPITAL DEFINITION, SHOULD BE FUNDED AT ATM AS A SPECIAL ARTICLE)	9/26/2006	15,000	
Board of Health	NC		PICKUP TRUCK - REPLACE 1999 FORD TRUCK - COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS REPAIR FUNDED FROM REVOLVING ACCT	FY07	16,000	
School Dept	NC		Olmsted Copiers (SHOULD BE FUNDED IN SCHOOL BUDGET)	9/30/2005	7,948	
School Dept	NC		Parkview Copiers (SHOULD BE FUNDED IN SCHOOL BUDGET)	9/30/2005	11,818	

**TOWN OF EASTON
CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
FY 08 CAPITAL BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS**

Department	Class	Capital Planning Priority	Brief Description of Item	Initial Inclusion Date	FY'2008 Requested	FY'2008 Recommended/ Funded ⁽¹⁾
School Dept	NC		Mathematics Texts <i>(SHOULD BE FUNDED IN SCHOOL BUDGET)</i>	8/31/2005	6,000	
School Dept	NC		Music Texts <i>(SHOULD BE FUNDED IN SCHOOL BUDGET)</i>	8/31/2005	4,800	
School Dept	NC		English/Language Arts Texts <i>(SHOULD BE FUNDED IN SCHOOL BUDGET)</i>	8/31/2005	41,950	
School Dept	NC		High School Copiers <i>(SHOULD BE FUNDED IN SCHOOL BUDGET)</i>	9/30/2005	19,766	
School Dept	NC		Junior High Copiers <i>(SHOULD BE FUNDED IN SCHOOL BUDGET)</i>	9/30/2005	11,818	
Data Processing	O		Replacement of about 25-28 computers and 1 server using Comcast money for each year	2/17/2005	35,000	
DPW-Water	O		Replace vehicle #124 F-250 Utility Truck		33,000	33,000
Data Processing	O		Upgrade of 2 servers (and all routers about every 5th year) using DP 01-051-02-5850	2/17/2005	20,000	
DPW-Water	O		Replace vehicle #129 F-450 Dump Truck		61,700	61,700
DPW-Water	O		Replace vehicle #131 E-350 Van (replace w/F-150 PU)		19,000	19,000
DPW-Water	O		Well Redevelopment		26,000	26,000
Total					2,776,684	1,350,584

⁽¹⁾ Funded at Annual Town Meeting on May 21, 2007.

Funding Sources:

Water Surplus	139,700
Free Cash	300,000
Overlay Surplus	469,884
Board of Health Revolving	16,000
Borrowing (Roof & Boiler)	425,000
Total	1,350,584

CODES

- 1 - Imminent threat to the health and safety of citizens or property
- 2 - Improvement of a capital asset to facilitate maintenance of operations, not to include ordinary maintenance; these
- 3 - Requirement of state or federal law or regulation
- 4 - Improvement of infrastructure
- 5 - Improvement of productivity
- 6 - Alleviation of an overburdened situation

NC - No classification assigned

NR - Not recommended by Committee

O - Other Source of funding such as water surplus

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION

I would like to ask all residents to assist us if they notice any streetlights that are out by calling National Grid with the pole number at 1-800-322-3223 or contacting their website at www.nationalgrid.us.com/streetlights.

The Department of Public Works had a very busy 2007 hosting several public events.

- The first event, held on April 21st, was our annual Household Hazardous Waste Day at the DPW. Over 412 residents participated. During that weekend, we also conducted our first Easton Pride Community Roadside Cleanup with over 100 volunteers and all DPW personnel participating.
- On Friday, April 27th, we held our annual Arbor Day celebration with a tree planting at the Town Office in memory of John Luke, the original caretaker of the Wayside Estate and father of Highway Supervisor Jim Luke.
- On Saturday, May 5th, the Easton Water Division held its annual Open House and poster contest with over one hundred guests.
- The Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee held its 20th annual Canoe River Awareness Day with over 50 participants starting with a tour of the new Water Division Pumping Station on Red Mill Road and then enjoying a nature canoe trip on the river in Easton.

The Department of Public Works is working on a project with the EPA Community Energy Challenge Representative to evaluate the energy use in all schools and municipal buildings. This initiative is to help Easton cut energy use, save money, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution.

The DPW has entered into a pilot program with Envista Corporation and Bay State Gas to share construction schedules to better coordinate work with a limited number of street openings.

The DPW responded to a gas explosion on Jenny Lind Street on September 10th and assisted the Police and Fire Departments with road closings, heavy equipment to move building debris, emergency lighting and street sweeping.

DPW personnel attended a pre-construction hearing at the Mass Highway District #5 Office in Taunton regarding the Central Street Bridge Project, which was scheduled to begin construction on October 15th with a tentative completion date of July 18, 2008.

The DPW assumed the duties of overseeing the Town's single vendor trash program, including billing, customer relations, and promotion of the program.

The DPW set up all the polling locations for the election on April 27th, assisted with the set up of the Town Meeting on May 21st, the Special Town Meeting on November 5th, 2007 as well as Graduation exercises at Frothingham Park on June 3rd.

The department also assisted with the Community Visioning Session at Oakes Ames Hall on Saturday, October 27th, and worked with the Historical Commission repairing damage done by vandals at the Rockery.

Bids and specifications were prepared for a new boiler at Center School. The low bidder began construction in mid October and completed the project in December.

The DPW assisted the Fire Department on responding to the fire at the Ames Barn on Main Street.

The DPW assisted the Fire Department on responding to the fire at the Ames Barn on Main Street.

The contractor working for Aquaria, Inc. has completed the installation of the 20" water main through Easton as well as the replacement of an 8" ductile iron water main on Turnpike Street.

A new sidewalk will be constructed on the west side of Turnpike Street and the roadway will be resurfaced in the spring as part of the mitigation of the Aquaria project.

The DPW provided contract oversight for the electrical upgrades at Moreau Hall, Center School, and Parkview School.

Bids and specifications were prepared for the roof replacement for the DPW Building on Center Street and construction was completed in November.

During the past year, the DPW has implemented a GIS (Geographic Information System). Adrienne Edwards was hired as our GIS/CAD Specialist and has begun implementation of the new program. The necessary hardware and software has been purchased and a needs analysis was conducted with all town departments.

The DPW dealt with its first real snowstorm of 2007 on March 16th and 17th (St. Patrick's Day Nor'easter). Crews dealt with snow, sleet, wind and rain.

As we entered the next winter season in December, the DPW was extremely busy dealing with 8 winter storm related sanding operations and conducting 4 snowstorm plowing operations.

Cleaning and painting of the \$2 million gallon Bay Road water storage tank was completed.

Sidewalks were rebuilt on King Avenue, Linden Street, Pleasant Street, and Holmes Street. Repairs were made on Lothrop Street at Center Street.

Royal Road, Rollins Road, and Elm Street Extension were paved

A new cement pad was installed at the entrance to Fire Station 1 on Lothrop Street, replacing the damaged asphalt pavement.

The DPW relocated several offices at the Town Offices and continued interior painting and floor refinishing on the first floor.

We would like to thank the Easton Garden Club for their efforts in restoring the gardens at the entrance of the Town Offices on Elm Street.

I would like to praise the entire staff at the Department of Public Works for their positive work ethic and team spirit.

Our experienced office personnel, Shirley Tufts, Jan Jacobson, and Karen Gallo continue to provide friendly and knowledgeable service to all our customers.

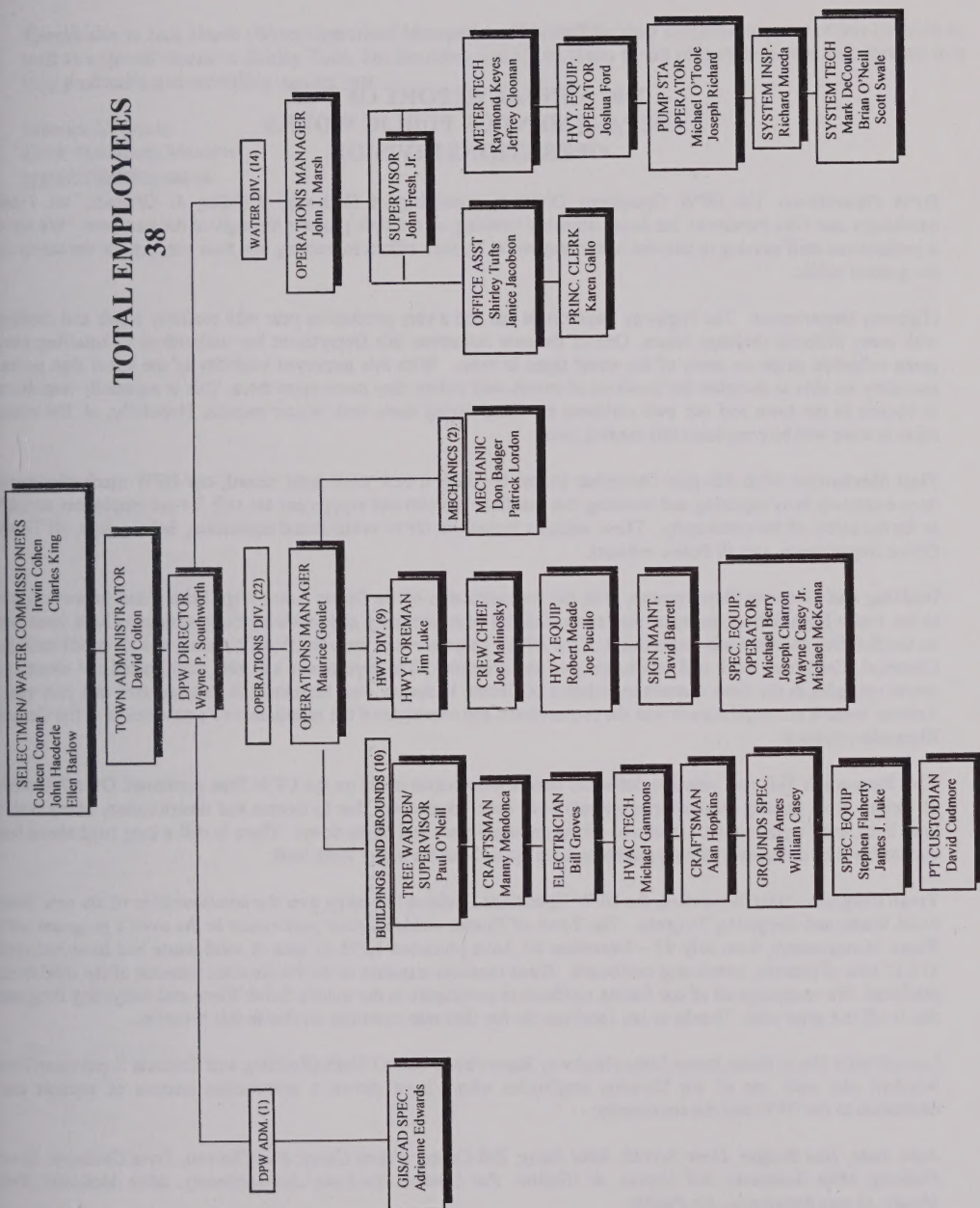
The DPW managers, John Marsh, Maurice Goulet, John Fresh, Paul O'Neill and James Luke challenge each other with the latest technology breakthroughs to allow us to provide efficient service to the citizens of Easton.

"With Community Pride"

Wayne P. Southworth, Director
wsouthworth@easton.ma.us

TOTAL EMPLOYEES

38



2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OPERATIONS DIVISION

DPW Operations: The DPW Operations Division, consisting of Highway, Building & Grounds, the Fleet Mechanics and Tree Personnel, has been diligently working on multiple projects throughout the past year. We have a professional staff striving to become better employees by their efforts in training and their concern for the safety of the general public.

Highway Department: The Highway Department has had a very productive year with roadway repair and dealing with many different drainage issues. One of the new initiatives this Department has undertaken is installing new green reflective strips on many of the street signs in town. With this improved visibility of the street sign poles, motorists are able to decipher the locations of streets well before they come upon them. This is especially important to visitors in the town and our own residents traveling during these dark winter months. Hopefully, all the street signs in town will be completed this coming year.

Fleet Mechanics: With this past December almost breaking a new snow total record, our DPW mechanics have been extremely busy repairing and ensuring that our fleet vehicles and equipment are safe for our employees as well as for the safety of the community. These vehicles include all DPW vehicles and equipment, School vans, all Town Office Departments, and all Police vehicles.

Building and Grounds Department: With the reconstruction of the Oliver Ames High School and improvements to the Junior High School, many of the responsibilities of maintaining and servicing these structures have been put on the Building and Grounds Department of the DPW. These services include HVAC (heating and air conditioning), Electrical, Craftsman work and landscaping of the grounds. This Department has also coordinated the electrical power upgrades in the three elementary schools of Center, Parkview, and Moreau Hall that occurred this past year. Another notable accomplishment was the procurement and oversight of the installation of a new boiler at the Center Elementary School.

Tree Personnel: This past year has definitely been a tremendous strain on the DPW Tree personnel. Over 300 trees of various sizes (mostly large diameter trees) have been taken down due to storms and deterioration. Many hours have been spent trying to put a dent into taking damaged trees and limbs down. There is still a long road ahead but our staff will be doing everything possible to keep up with such a heavy work load.

Trash Program: Since November, the DPW Operations Division has taken over the administration of the new town Solid Waste and Recycling Program. The Town of Easton residents (*that participate in the town's program with Waste Management*), from July 07 – December 07, have produced 1,275.01 tons of solid waste and have recycled 415.17 tons of plastics, metals and cardboard. These numbers translate to 24.6% recycled material of the total trash produced. We encourage all of our Easton residents to participate in the town's Solid Waste and Recycling Program that is off to a great start. Thanks to Jan Jacobson for her first-rate customer service in this program.

I would truly like to thank James Luke (Highway Supervisor), Paul O'Neill (Building and Grounds Supervisor/Tree Warden) and each one of our Division employees whom have shown a tremendous amount of support and dedication to the DPW and the community:

John Ames, Don Badger, Dave Barrett, Mike Berry, Bill Casey, Wayne Casey, Joe Charron, Dave Cudmore, Steve Flaherty, Mike Gammons, Bill Groves, Al Hopkins, Pat Lordan, Jim Luke, Joe Malinosky, Mike McKenna, Bob Meade, Manny Mendonca, Joe Pucillo

Thanks also to Jack Marsh (Water Operations Manager) and his staff for their continued support of this Division as well as a special thanks to Shirley Tufts, Jan Jacobson, and Karen Gallo for all of their help. We look forward to a very productive and rewarding coming year.

Maurice G. Goulet
DPW Operations Manager
mgoulet@easton.ma.us

DPW Operations Division
Projects of 2007

HIGHWAY

<u>Roadway Paving:</u>	<u>Linear Feet</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Elm Street Extension (Overlay)	3,294	0.62
Pheasant Lane (Overlay)	875	0.17
Rollins Road (Overlay)	1,300	0.25
Royal Road	455	0.09
Total	5,924	1.12

<u>Sidewalk Reconstruction:</u>	<u>Linear Feet</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Holmes Street (Concrete)	960	0.18
King Avenue (Concrete)	486	0.09
Linden Street (Concrete)	694	0.13
Pleasant Street (Concrete)	582	0.11
Total	2,722	0.52

<u>Drainage Basins Cleaned:</u>	Total	802
--	--------------	------------

<u>Drainage Basins Newly Constructed:</u>	Total	11
--	--------------	-----------

<u>Drainage Basins Remodeled:</u>	Total	49
--	--------------	-----------

<u>Berm Installation:</u>	<u>Linear Feet</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Various Locations Town-wide	Total 3,076	0.58

<u>Traffic Marking: (Linepainting)</u>	<u>Linear Feet</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Various Locations Town-wide	Total 312,243	59.14

<u>Linepainting Crosswalks:</u>		<u>Each</u>
Various Locations Town-wide	Total	95

<u>Crack-Sealing Roadways:</u>	<u>Linear Feet</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Center Street	5,604	1.06
Church Street	3,673	0.70
Depot Street	6,387	1.21
Foundry Street	7,467	1.41
Rockland Street	1,372	0.26
Total	24,503	4.64

<u>Roadway Repair:</u>		<u>Tons</u>
Briarwood Circle, Depot Street,	Total	195
Bay Road, Summer Street,		
Water Street, Hampden Street		
Moreau Hall Lot and Service Road		

<u>Pothole Patching:</u>		<u>Tons</u>
Various Locations Town-wide	Total	42

<u>Fleet Maintenance:</u>		<u>Vehicles</u>
Various Town Departments	Total	118

<u>Street Sweeping:</u>	From 4/30/07 to 6/15/07
Town-wide	

<u>Flail Mowing:</u>	From 6/18/07 to 9/14/07
Town-wide	

<u>Sanding Operations:</u>		<u>Events</u>
Town-wide	Total	26

<u>Snowplowing Operations:</u>		<u>Events</u>
Town-wide	Total	6

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Tree Removal

Town-wide	Total	Each 302
-----------	-------	-------------

Stump Removal

Town-wide	Total	Each 55
-----------	-------	------------

Cemetery Maintenance

Town-wide	Total	Each 29
-----------	-------	------------

Field Maintenance

Town-wide	Total	Each 22
-----------	-------	------------

Playground Maintenance

Town-wide	Total	Each 7
-----------	-------	-----------

Field Lining for Sporting Events

Town-wide	Total	Each 26
-----------	-------	------------

Christmas Tree Disposal

Town-wide	Total	Each 378
-----------	-------	-------------

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TREE WARDEN/BUILDING & GROUNDS SUPERVISOR

The Building & Grounds Division has continued to maintain trees and brush along the public ways throughout the town. Over three hundred trees were removed because they were dead, dying, or diseased causing possible danger to traffic or pedestrians. Several trees were posted and removed to increase visibility or to eliminate a potential hazard. There are many more dead or dying trees around town due to Gypsy Moth Caterpillars, Forest Caterpillars and drought. The combination of these things has taken a toll on our trees. Storms have also taken down some trees and limbs, many of which were private trees that fell in the roadways. They were cleared from the roads and cleaned up as needed.

Fire lanes are cleared and kept open in the Town Forest and conservation land. Lanes are also kept clear at Wheaton Farm for the Water Division's wells. Residents needing wood chips or firewood can get on a list by calling the Department of Public Works @ 508-230-0850. The division chipped three hundred and seventy eight Christmas trees that were dropped off at the Town Barn.

On April 27, 2007 the Town celebrated Arbor Day for the Nineteenth consecutive year by planting a tree in honor of John Luke who was the Superintendent of Wayside. Wayside is what we all know as the Easton Town Offices located at 136 Elm Street, North Easton. Mr. Luke was employed by Wayside from 1945 to 1956 at which time he went to work at the Parker Estate. Mr. Luke passed away in 1981.

Athletic Fields at the schools are maintained by William Casey, Grounds Specialist for the Division. This includes the mowing, lining and upkeep for all sporting events (i.e. football, baseball, softball, soccer, track, field hockey, and lacrosse). Also maintained under this division are town owned cemeteries, parks, playgrounds and roadsides as well as town owned properties. Several students are hired to assist with this work along with other division employees when needed.

Our H.V.A.C. Technician, Michael Gammons, has had well over 200 work orders for town buildings and schools. Work orders range from small leaks in steam and water pipes to major work on boilers. A new boiler was installed at Center School over the Summer and Fall to replace the original one. There are many calls for heating and air conditioning problems throughout the town. Many buildings are old and not very easy to maintain. Improvements are being made to make all town buildings energy efficient.

Our Electrician, William Groves, handles all electrical issues in the Schools, Town Office, Police/Fire Stations, Public Works, Water Division and Pumping Stations. He also takes care of the outside lighting around the schools and stadium. The electrical systems were upgraded at Center School, Parkview School and Moreau Hall. All smoke & fire alarms are maintained and tested quarterly. Elevators are inspected each year with the assistance of our electrician.

Our Maintenance Craftsman, Manuel Mendonca, has done major work at Moreau Hall replacing all the woodwork and rebuilding parts of the gutters in the front of the building. A new storage area was built to replace the old one at Center School and the old closet is now the new electrical room. Office areas have been changed and screens added to rooms throughout the school. A new roof was put on the Public Works building at 130 Center Street. The distribution pipes were repaired coming from the Sewer Treatment Plant and going over to the leaching field at Parkview School.

The division sets up the voting equipment for all elections at the following locations: Oliver Ames High School, the Knights of Columbus Hall, and the Easton Baptist Church. We also set up for Town meetings at the appropriate location. We move bleachers and chairs from the High School, Parkview School, and Center School for graduation ceremonies. Chairs and risers are moved from one school to another for plays and musicals performed several time a year. The Building & Grounds Division also assists with snow plowing, snow removal, and sanding operations during the winter months.

I would like to express my gratitude to the employees of the Building & Grounds Division – John Ames, William Casey, Stephen Flaherty, Michael Gammons, William Groves, Alan Hopkins, James Luke, and Manuel Mendonca for their hard work, dedication, ideas/suggestions, and the pride they take in what they do. I would also like to express my gratitude to the other divisions of the Public Works Department for their assistance and continued support during the past year and the Office Staff, Janice Jacobson, Shirley Tufts and Karen Gallo for their outstanding job keeping things running smoothly throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul E. O'Neill
Tree Warden/Building & Grounds Supervisor

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS WATER DIVISION

MISSION STATEMENT

The Easton Water Division is dedicated to providing, protecting and preserving today's water supplies for tomorrow's consumers. Our commitment is to supply quality water that complies with all State & Federal standards, provide education and excellent customer service, and to be the leaders of our profession.

I respectfully submit the following report and pumping record for the year 2007.

Month	Gallons	Month	Gallons
January	45,084,000	July	92,531,000
February	42,126,000	August	91,444,000
March	44,422,000	September	86,343,000
April	44,907,000	October	60,412,000
May	67,713,000	November	47,993,000
June	81,416,000	December	47,208,000
		Total Pumped	751,599,000

The greatest amount pumped in one day was 4,240,000 gallons on July 3, 2007.

Total 2007 Precipitation was 41.01 inches.

The Water Division responded to 2,352 service and emergency calls:

Connected 41 new services for a total of 7,175 active services

Replaced 41 meters

Renewed 21 services

Repaired 10 service leaks

Repaired 12 broken water mains

1 – 6" main, 10 – 8" mains, 1 – 12" main

In 2007, new subdivisions and water main improvements added to our system:

76' of 4" water main

350' of 6" water main

7,963' of 8" water main

10 new fire hydrants

45 new valves

We now have a total of 161 miles of water mains, 1,452 hydrants and 3,153 street valves in our system.

The Water Division read 85,864 meters during the past year. All reading data is analyzed to help meet state regulations and also used as a tool to help notify customers of potential leaks within their plumbing systems. We processed 28,805 routine water bills, 266 property transfer bills and 341 miscellaneous bills.

This completed the nineteenth year of our Backflow Prevention Program. Since 1989, we have conducted 451 surveys of facilities to ensure appropriate backflow prevention devices. This year 21 commercial buildings, 1 institutional buildings and 0 industrial buildings were surveyed. We have 283 testable devices in the system, 162 double check valve assemblies, 112 reduced pressure zone backflow preventers and 14 non-required devices. This year 365 backflow prevention device tests were performed.

In order to meet the requirements of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, we have taken the following samples for analysis:

- 664 bacteriological
- 7 nitrate
- 1 routine chemical
- 7 secondary contaminants
- 9 volatile organic compounds (VOC)
- 2,335 pH
- 1,750 chlorine residual
- 16 Trihalomethane
- 16 Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)
- 1 Gross Alpha Particle Activity
- 1 SOC
- 33 lead/copper
- 8 perchlorate
- 1 iron
- 1 manganese
- 1 conductivity

The contract for the cleaning and painting of the 2,000,000 gallon Bay Road Reservoir was awarded to Hemi Enterprises Inc. of South Attleboro MA late last fall. The storage tank was taken offline on March 21, 2007 to start the project. Due to inclement weather and equipment failures the contractor could not complete the project within the 80 calendar day requirement.

To meet peak summer demands the tank was filled and put back in service on July 10, 2007. The outside of the tank had been primed; the inside had finish coating with the exception of the roof. On September 17, 2007, the tank was taken offline and drained. The contractors returned onsite to complete the project and the tank was put back in service on November 21, 2007. All additional cost incurred for work over the contracted 80 days were charged to Hemi Enterprises.

We continue to survey the water system for leaks using conventional and digital correlation technology. We have completed 22 system-wide leak surveys to date. This program enables us to maintain low unaccounted-for water.

Due to the maintenance of our Bay Road storage tank, we were unable to conduct our annual unidirectional system wide flushing program. Unidirectional flushing is a technique that removes mineral and biological deposits in water lines by moving water through the mains at high velocity in a single direction. This program is our most effective tool in maintaining water quality and delivery of safe water to your tap. We will perform our next flushing program in April 2008.

The Water Division renewed 44 services on Central Street. By performing the renewals we were able to abandon the 8" water main installed in the early 1900s. All services are now connected to the 12" ductile iron water main installed in 1977. Projects like this improve water quality as well as reduce maintenance cost.

Aquaria LLC installed a 20" pipeline from Dighton to Brockton. The pipeline is to supply Brockton with water from New England's first desalination plant located in Dighton MA. As part of their terms of agreement with the Town, they replaced a section of 6" and 8" water main on Turnpike Street from Washington Street to Depot Street. This 5,900 foot section of new 8" ductile iron water main replaced the older 1915 vintage cast iron main. This project was at no cost to the residents of Easton and greatly increases water quality as well as fire protection.

The staff continues to educate our peers, students, and the public on water conservation and the operations of the Water Division. We continue to give numerous presentations to Water Works organizations, providing tours and training to Brownie and Girl Scout troops, as well as holding the Annual Open House.

The meeting room at the Easton Water Division office at 417 Bay Road continues to be in high demand, as one of the only town meeting rooms.

We conducted our Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on April 21, 2007 with 418 residents participating at a cost of \$8,711.51 to the Town. I would like to thank the Easton Lions Club for their continued effort in assisting in this event with the collection of TV's, computer monitors, and white goods. Our collection day for 2008 has been scheduled for April 26th.

The Water Division hosted its 23rd Annual Open House on Saturday, May 5, 2007 with the highlight being the Award Ceremony of our Annual Water Conservation Poster Contest. Hundreds of posters are judged from the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. This contest could not be possible without the excellent cooperation of the Easton school system—especially, Dr. William Simmons, School Superintendent, Dr. Michael A. Green, Administrative Assistant to Superintendent, Christine DiVirgilio, Achim Krasenbrink, Susan Masse, Kathie Hayes, and Betty Minuskin of the Art Department. This contest provides a perfect medium to educate the students to the value of water and the need to protect it.

The Water Division continues to remain leaders in the water works industry. Our employees are dedicated and committed to their jobs. As a manager, it is certainly rewarding to have employees of this caliber and I would like to personally thank all of them for their continued efforts: Shirley Tufts, Janice Jacobson, Karen Gallo, John Fresh, Jr., Raymond Keyes, Richard Mueda, Joshua Ford, Joseph Richard, Michael O'Toole, Jeffery Cloonan, Mark DeCouto, Brian O'Neill and Scott Swale.

"With Water Works Pride"

John J. Marsh

508-230-0850

jmarsh@easton.ma.us

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CANOE RIVER AQUIFER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee held eleven meetings during the year. The meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month and are rotated within one of the five communities of Easton, Sharon, Foxborough, Mansfield and Norton.

The Committee celebrated its 20th anniversary with a gala at The Players' Club in Norton on Friday evening, March 23, 2007 with guest speakers Leslie Luchonok and Bill Napolitano.

The Committee held its annual Awareness Day on Saturday, May 12th with a tour of Easton's new water pumping station on Red Mill Road and a canoe trip narrated by CRAAC member Jennifer Carlino.

Jennifer Carlino was responsible for producing a very colorful photo book of the Canoe River depicting wildlife and many events that the Committee has held.

John Sullivan, Mansfield Town Engineer, gave a presentation to the Committee on Mansfield's NPDES Stormwater Permit.

Chairman Southworth attended a training session at Bridgewater State College on behalf of the Committee regarding the Taunton River Integrated Watershed Management Plan.

The Committee would like to thank Easton Water Operations Manager Jack Marsh for his involvement with the production of our website, as well as Karen Gallo of The Town of Easton Water Division, Antonetta Ackerman of the Town of Sharon Water Department, and Eileen Zinni of the Town of Foxborough Water Department for their dedication and assistance in producing our minutes and mailings.

NOTICE

THE CANOE RIVER AQUIFER ADVISORY COMMITTEE WILL MEET THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 1:00 PM IN ONE OF THE TOWNS OF EASTON, MANSFIELD, NORTON, FOXBOROUGH, OR SHARON.

THE FOLLOWING 2008 SCHEDULE IS AS PLANNED:

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2008	SHARON COMMUNITY CENTER (off Massapoag Ave.)
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2008	FOXBOROUGH TOWN HALL
THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2008	NORTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2008	MANSFIELD TOWN HALL
THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2008	EASTON WATER DEPARTMENT
THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2008	SHARON TOWN HALL
THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2008	FOXBOROUGH TOWN HALL
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2008	NORTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2008	MANSFIELD TOWN HALL
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2008	EASTON WATER DEPARTMENT
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2008	SHARON TOWN HALL

Present Membership

Norton

Susan Mims (6/30/08)
Suzanne Erickson (6/30/08)
Jennifer Carlino (6/30/09)

Foxborough

Robert W. Boette (6/30/09)
Joan F. Sozio(6/30/08)
Leo Potter (6/30/10)

Sharon

Gregory Meister (6/30/10)
Dave Masciarelli (6/30/08)

Easton

John H. Fresh, Jr. (06/30/10)
Wayne P. Southworth (06/30/09)
Janice L. Fowler (6/30/08)

Mansfield

Edward Tartufo (6/30/08)
Leonard F. Flynn (6/30/09)
Kevin O'Donnell (6/30/10)

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT

I respectfully submit the annual report of the Easton Fire & Rescue Department for the year 2007.

OPERATIONS

2007 was another busy year for the Easton Fire Department. The department responded to a total of 3322 incidents in 2007. A total of 6235 pieces of apparatus were utilized to handle those incidents. The department responded to 63 fires in structures, 40 brush fires, 10 vehicle fires, and 55 other types of fires. The department also responded to 1335 medical emergencies and 403 automobile accidents. A total of 1212 patients were transported to local hospitals. The remainder of the responses can be categorized as either investigations of potentially hazardous situations or public service calls.

On July 2, 2007 five (5) new firefighter / paramedics were appointed to the department. They are Jeffrey Dupuis, John Dzailo, Patrick McGovern, Charles Snow, and Darren Stone. Three of the new members filled positions that were vacated in 2006 by retiring personnel. The remaining two new members have filled two of the four new positions created by the passage of the Proposition 2 ½ override budget last year. We hope to fill the two remaining positions with new certified paramedics in January 2008.

The new firefighters completed an orientation / training period during the summer and were then assigned to one of our four work-groups. On December 21, 2007, Jeffrey Dupuis, Patrick McGovern, Charles Snow and Darren Stone graduated from the twelve-week intensive Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Recruit Training Program. John Dzailo is scheduled to start the same program on January 7, 2008.

Even with the addition of new personnel, I must emphasize that we are still considerably under-staffed for a department that is required to cover 29.4 square miles and protect over 23,000 residents.

The total compliment of funded fire department positions in 2007 is only four (4) more than we had funded in 1987. However, the number of emergency calls has increased tremendously during the same time frame. It remains increasingly difficult to handle the escalating demands for service with the very limited on-duty staffing. The incidence of multiple emergency calls taking place simultaneously increases each year as the town continues to grow. Citizens are being forced to wait for dangerously long periods of time for the arrival of emergency vehicles because the on-duty personnel are committed to other calls.

With insufficient staffing, the safety of the personnel responding to the needs of the community is jeopardized. As mentioned above, with increasing frequency there are times when all available on-duty personnel are committed to one call leaving no one available to respond to the next incident. We do have a method in place to call back off-duty personnel, but the number of call back personnel is minimal and unpredictable. We are forced to rely on mutual aid apparatus to respond to calls in our own town. Mutual aid is a vital part of any emergency response system, but the response times can be lengthy.

To emphasize how critical the situation has become, in 2007, Easton Fire Department apparatus (fire trucks and ambulances) responded on mutual aid to assist all our surrounding communities 84 times. Yet we had to call apparatus in from other communities 186 times to assist us. There were 1212 patients transported to area hospitals in 2007. 146 of those patients were transported by out of town ambulances. Not only were there delays in providing emergency services while waiting for the mutual aid ambulances to arrive, but there was also a loss of revenue to the Town of Easton (the transporting ambulance bills for services). From the chart below, you can see that each year we are relying too heavily on our neighboring communities to provide the services we cannot provide with current staffing levels.

Patients transported by mutual aid ambulances

1997 = 62 or 6.9%
 1998 = 68 or 7.7%
 1999 = 80 or 9.4%
 2000 = 116 or 10.3%
 2001 = 103 or 10.2%
 2002 = 125 or 12.7%
 2003 = 137 or 14%
 2004 = 147 or 14%
 2005 = 172 or 15%
 2006 = 166 or 14%
 2007 = 146 or 12%

Mutual aid is a concept that has been utilized by the fire service for over a century. It is a system designed to help every city and town deal with those unusual incidents that a community cannot handle on their own. After the events of September 11, 2001 local fire and police departments are expected to be the "first line of defense" against terrorist activities and events involving weapons of mass destruction. However with current staffing levels, we must rely on mutual aid just to handle the day-to-day routine calls. With all neighboring cities and towns experiencing financial difficulties, mutual aid may not be as reliable as it has been in the past. This will further reduce our ability to provide the emergency services expected and demanded by the citizens of Easton.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Firefighting and emergency medical training are vital to ensuring that the Easton Fire Department is able to respond effectively and efficiently to the many calls for assistance that we receive. Most of the training is conducted "in-service" while the personnel are on duty, but many members take advantage of training and educational opportunities on their own "off-duty" time. Captain James Walsh is the department's training officer and coordinates the training activities. We frequently work directly with the instructors and training staff of the Department of Fire Services Massachusetts Firefighting Academy as well as training instructors from surrounding communities. This ensures that firefighting practices and procedures keep pace with new advances in technology and tactics.

On an annual basis all EMTs, from the basic level to the paramedic level, are required to complete many hours of continuing education in order to improve their ability to deliver high quality medical care. Our EMS Training Coordinator FF / Paramedic Brendan McCarthy and Advanced Life Support coordinator FF/ Paramedic Evan Malone conduct most of the medical training for department members along with offering CPR and first-aid training to various groups in the community. Doctor Henry Crowley has been contracted to be our ambulance service medical director and is committed to providing oversight over the entire medical delivery system. He has been conducting monthly training sessions for all of our medical personnel and responds to emergencies when available to offer expertise and "hands-on" assistance.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND FIRE PREVENTION

The most important function of any Fire Department is to prevent the occurrence of situations that produce injury, death, destruction to property or negatively impact our environment. We try to accomplish this through our Public Education and Fire Prevention division.

The S.A.F.E. (Student Awareness of Fire Education) Program is now in its 13th year. This program is a cooperative effort between firefighters, school principals, teachers, and students. The program was originally developed and continues to be funded through a state grant. This years S.A.F.E. funding was originally vetoed by Governor Patrick. However, I am proud to say that our Legislators (Senators Robert Creedon & Brian Joyce as well as Representatives David Flynn, Geraldine Creedon, & Christine Canavan) all voted in favor of over-riding the Governor's veto. The S.A.F.E. funding was restored in the final state budget. We are fortunate to have legislators that always support public safety programs. Through the

determined efforts of Captain Dave Beals, FF Larry Blye and FF Chris Mills the Easton Fire Department S.A.F.E. program has been a huge success and continues to grow.

The demands on the Fire Prevention office are continuing to increase. A great deal of new construction is taking place in Easton at this time. Hundreds of residential, commercial, and industrial inspections were completed during the year. We have seen an increase in the need for residential and commercial plan reviews as well. This trend continues. There are several new residential developments as well as commercial buildings on the "drawing board" for the immediate future.

FIRE ALARM

Captain James Walsh and FF William Wolffe performed repairs and maintenance procedures to the municipal fire alarm system throughout the year. Several new radio activated fire alarm boxes were installed. Master alarm boxes activated by a building's internal fire alarm system were installed at the following locations; Orthopedic Care Center, Target Store, the new Bank of Easton, and Old Pond Plaza. Several new radio pull boxes were also installed on newly constructed roads throughout town.

APPARATUS AND STATIONS

At this time, I am pleased to report that our fire apparatus is currently in very good condition.

However, I cannot make the same statement about the condition of our two (2) ambulances. Ambulance # 2, a 1999 Horton, is showing severe signs of 8-years worth of wear and tear. It currently has over 92,000 road miles on it. The chassis, frame, and suspension system have all deteriorated. Ambulance # 1, a 2004 Horton, currently has over 73,000 road miles on it. Another 20,000 – 25,000 miles will be added during 2008. Both ambulances had to be taken out-of-service many times during the year for service and repairs. **It is absolutely critical that a new ambulance be purchased as soon as possible.** I have requested funding in the FY-09 Capital Budget plan to replace the 1999 ambulance.

Fire Station # 2 on Depot Street, our oldest station, is in need of repairs or replacement. This station was built in 1934 under a Federal WPA project. The 1997 Fire Study committee concluded that a three-station configuration is necessary to adequately cover the Town. Of our three stations, the Depot Street station is most ideally located. It offers immediate access to the Town's only major east / west connector (Route 123) and is closest to our main north / south connector (Route 138). Funding was requested and approved at the annual town meeting to conduct an engineering study of the Depot Street station to determine the best course of action to take in regards to this building. An engineering contract has been awarded but the results of the study have not been processed at this time.

PERSONNEL

The members of the Easton Fire & Rescue Department continue to donate many hours of their own time in order to ensure that the department responds effectively to the needs of the community. They responded in a very efficient and professional manner throughout the year. I would like to thank all of them for their commitment to this effort.

Mission Statement:

"The Easton Fire & Rescue Department is committed to protecting the people, property, and environment within our community. We will be responsive to the needs of our citizens by providing rapid, professional, humanitarian services essential to the health, safety, and well being of the community. We will accomplish our mission through fire prevention, fire safety awareness education, fire suppression, emergency medical services, and other related emergency and non-emergency activities. We will actively participate in our community, serve as role models, and strive to effectively and efficiently utilize all of the necessary resources at our command to provide a product deemed excellent by our citizens. ALWAYS READY, PROUD TO SERVE".

TO REPORT A FIRE OR ANY EMERGENCY, DIAL 911

For other Fire Department business or assistance, dial 508-230-3311

Additional phone numbers;

Fire Chief's Office 508-230-0750
Fire Prevention Office 508-230-0750
Fax Number 508-238-2891

CONCLUSION

On a personal note, I would like to thank all the officers, firefighters, and the department's administrative secretary (Pam Berglund) as well as the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, all the Department heads and members of the various Town boards and committees for their assistance over the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas F. Stone, Fire Chief

**2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE EASTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
www.eastonpd.com**

I respectfully submit the Annual Town Report for the Easton Police Department.

The Town of Easton Police Department is a certified Department and continues its efforts to prevent crime and ensure the safety of its citizens while protecting the civil rights of all the members of our community.

Our current allotment of manpower is 33; well below the number required to adequately meet the increasing demands placed upon the Department. The increasing population, drug and alcohol abuse and much heavier volumes of traffic are some of the factors that have added to an increasing amount of calls for service.

Officer Anthony DiCarlo returned from his service in the military, and he is presently attending the Plymouth Police Academy. He will graduate in May of 2008. Mrs. Lois Welch, the Chief's Executive Secretary, retired after working for the Town for 14 years. She will be missed by all. Mrs. Lee Harney has taken over the Chief's Executive Secretarial position. Mr. Bradley Easton was hired as a Dispatcher. He attended the E911 training school. Mr. Easton replaced Ms. Tracey Brennan, who resigned from her Dispatcher position. Two new dispatcher positions were created. Ms. Doreen Campbell and Ms. Michelle Brabants-Zagami have been trained and are currently working full time. All the dispatchers will be receiving additional training in the near future. This training will be funded from a training grant received in December in the amount of \$6,200.00. Mrs. Leslee Buckley was hired as a part time Administrative Secretary. Officer Michael Golden resigned from the Department and took a position with the Boston Police Department. Filling his position is Officer Brian Humenuk. Officer Humenuk resides in Easton and was employed with Stonehill College Security and the Town of Acushnet Police Department before coming to Easton.

Officer George Allen continued in his position as the School Resource Officer for the Easton School System for the second year. Officer James McAvoy began his duties as the School Resource Officer at the Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical High School on December 3, 2007. I am very pleased how well both Officers have been received by both the students and school administrators.

Some of our activity during the year consisted of the following:

Officer Lonnie Ataman and members of the Fire Department rescued a Maple Street resident from the roof of her burning home.

Detective Michael Fox inspected all of the convenience stores and service stations looking for drug paraphernalia on sale in violation of State and Town codes. Several store owners voluntarily removed items from their shelves.

The Department traded in a 1995 Harley Davidson motorcycle and entered into a lease for a 2007 Harley Davidson. The Department accepted delivery of a Ford Crown Victoria marked cruiser and a Ford 500 unmarked vehicle.

Easton Officers, working along with the Massachusetts State Police, conducted a sobriety checkpoint along Route 138. This is an effort to reduce drug and alcohol related motor vehicle crashes. Several arrests were made by both the State Troopers and Easton Officers.

Several people received minor injuries and a gas company employee was severely injured when the house at 39 Jenny Lind Street exploded. Five Police Officers were treated and released from the Good Samaritan Hospital.

Over the 3-month period from April to June, we experienced several severe motor vehicle crashes; 3 of which were fatal. As a result of this, we have increased our traffic enforcement with special attention paid to those violations that cause motor vehicle crashes. We continue to participate in the Department of Public Safety's "Ticket or Click It" and "You Drink, You Drive, You Lose" Programs utilizing granted monies.

Our Community Police efforts continue thanks to the grant money provided by the Department of Public Safety.

The Department continues its association with the Metropolitan Law Enforcement Council and the Northern Bristol County Drug Task Force. Both groups allow us to bring highly trained and specialized Officers to Easton when needed.

Sergeant Ferretti and Sergeant Gary Sullivan, in cooperation with Mothers Against Drunk Drivers, conducted an alcohol sales compliance check utilizing an under-aged youth.

Easton was once again certified as a No Place for Hate Community. Special thanks to all the members of the No Place for Hate Committee.

Officer Denise Papagno, the Department's Domestic Violence Officer, conducted several programs in our efforts to prevent domestic violence and provide aid to victims. Officer George Allen attended the White Ribbon event at the Brockton Rox baseball game. Several Officers participated in the Night Out Against Crime; also conducted at the Brockton Rox game.

2007 STATISTICS

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

Murder	0
Suicides	0
Attempted Suicides	16
Rapes	1
Sexual Assaults	2
Robberies	3
Assault & Battery/Weapons	8
Assault & Battery	42

PROPERTY CRIMES

BREAK & ENTRIES

B & E Residence	33
B & E Motor Vehicle	64
B & E Business	30
B & E Attempts	8

LARCENIES

Larcenies over \$250	92
Larcenies under \$250	90
Larceny of Motor Vehicles	18
Recovered Stolen Motor Vehicles	3
Shoplifting	23

In Custody

ARRESTS	213
Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs	26
Protective Custody	13

MISCELLANEOUS TYPES

Domestic Situations	139
Domestic Violence	13
Disturbance	140
Disorderly Persons	13
Noise Complaints	132
General Service	686
Missing Persons	38
Vandalism	209
Alarms	1299
Annoying Phone Calls	43
Animal Complaints	291
Barking Dog Complaints	8

ACCIDENTS

Fatal Accidents	3
Property Damage Accidents	393
Personal Injury Accidents	99

PERMITS & CITATIONS

Traffic Citations	3400
-------------------	------

PROBLEMS OR COMMENTS

(508)230-3322

Police Chief Thomas Kominsky

tkominsky@easton.ma.us

Deputy Chief Allen Krajcik

akrajcik@easton.ma.us

MISSION AND RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

"The mission of the Easton Police Department is to protect life, and the constitutional rights of all citizens. This can be achieved by working in harmony with the community we serve, committed to the conviction that by working together, our community has the ability to form its own destiny."

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Kominsky
Chief of Police

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT

The Animal Control Department is responsible for enforcing the state, county and local government animal laws. We protect our citizens from intimidation and injury from animals. We protect the animals from health hazards; especially rabies. We protect the animals from abuse, neglect and inhumane treatment in accordance to the state laws.

We work closely with the Environmental Police, MSPCA, Department of Animal Health, Animal Rescue League and our local veterinarians for advice and help when needed.

A rabies vaccination is required by state law for all cats and dogs. A collar worn by a cat with the owners name would greatly assist in getting the cat back to you. A dog has a license tag which is a tool in finding the owner. It is so important to see that your dog is licensed because it indicates that the pet is rabies-vaccinated. A license for your dog also becomes important should your pet be involved in a bite incident, contact with wildlife or hit by a vehicle.

Rabies is a virus carried by some animals. Any animal thought to have rabies due to its behavior is sent to the state lab Virology Division for testing. This year we submitted 18 animals for testing; 2 dogs, 1 raccoon, 5 bats and 10 cats. One of the bats tested positive.

West Nile Virus still exists. We submitted 15 birds to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Lab to be evaluated. Two blue jays tested positive for the virus.

ANIMAL CONTROL STATISTICS

Calls Received	2056	Complaints	1625
General Information	431	Missing Animals	172
Dogs Picked Up	41	Dead Animals	205

Thirty-four dogs were returned to their owners. Seven dogs were turned over to the rescue league. Some animals were turned over to the MSPCA. They included 4 cats, 1 rabbit, 1 chicken and a cockatiel.

We held two rabies clinics in April at the rear of the Police Station.

We received 148 calls for wildlife sightings or incidents. Once the habitat for these animals is gone, they have to scout around for new food sources. Where do they go? We find them in populated areas with an abundance of uncovered trash, on the roadway where food is thrown and outside homes where pets are fed.

We are continuing to pursue owners of unlicensed dogs, unleashed dogs, dog bites and nuisance complaints with follow up calls.

We picked up a total of 205 dead animals; 36 deer, 15 opossum, 22 cats, 28 raccoons, 16 skunks, 13 foxes, 9 bats, 3 chickens, 1 rooster, 16 squirrels, 2 woodchucks, 2 rabbits, 1 hawk, 2 turtles, 2 snakes and 37 birds.

We can be reached by calling 508-230-3353 or 508-230-3322.

We would like to thank the Chief of Police, the Dispatchers, members of the Police and Fire Departments, Town Clerks Office, Board of Health, Town Administrators Office, Board of Selectman and the members of the Department of Public Works for their cooperation and support.

Respectfully submitted,

John Melin ACO
Elizabeth DeRosa ACO

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INSPECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

I hereby submit to you the annual report of the Office of the Inspector of Buildings and Zoning Enforcement Officer.

Single Family Dwellings	34
Multiple Family Dwellings	10
Additions-Residential	120
Alterations-Residential	140
New Commercial	1
Additions-Commercial	27
Alterations-Commercial	53
Demolished Buildings	11
Signs	34
Temporary Signs	18
Swimming Pools	22
Roofs	166
Siding	46
Replacement Windows/Doors	52
Temporary Tents	38
Earth Removal	0
Wood Stoves	18
Yard Sales	87
Foundations	48
Certificate of Inspections	64
Certificate of Occupancy	139

TOTALS

TOTAL COST OF CONSTRUCTION:		\$ 31,709,191.00
Total Building Fees Collected		\$ 243,547.00
Total Number of Daily Building Inspections	2,907	
Total Number of Wiring Fees Collected		\$ 46,297.00
Total Number of Wiring Permits Issued	623	
Total Number of Gas Fees Collected		\$ 12,565.00
Total Number of Gas Permits Issued	238	
Total Number of Plumbing Fees Collected		\$ 28,820.00
Total Number of Plumbing Permits Issued	343	
Total Number of Mechanical Fees Collected		\$ 1,430.00
Total Number of Mechanical Permits Issued	15	
Total Fees Collected for the Year 2007		\$ 332,659.00

Telephone: 508-230-0580 Fax: 508-230-0589 email: mtrivett@easton.ma.us
kgreiner@easton.ma.us
sheath@easton.ma.us

Office Hours: Monday: 8:30 a.m. – 7:30 pm.
Tuesday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Thursday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Susan Heath, Building Department Secretary
D. Mark Trivett, C.B.O., Inspector of Buildings, Zoning Enforcement Officer, ADA Coordinator
Paul DeBaggis, Local Inspector, Zoning Enforcement Officer
Kevin S. Greiner, Inspector of Wires
Robert Govey, Plumbing and Gas Inspector
Ellen Weene, Board of Appeals Secretary
John F. Amorim, Assistant Electrical Inspector
Bart Carlson, Assistant Plumbing and Gas Inspector

Responsibilities:

- Provide highest level of service to protect and support residents and those doing business in Easton through effective enforcement of State Building Codes and Town By-Laws.
- Perform plan reviews and issue permits for building, plumbing, gas, electrical, roofing, siding, replacement windows, pools, signs, wood stoves, HVAC systems, fire protection systems and demolition work.
- Provide prompt, fair and accurate inspections related to each permit.
- Issue certificates of occupancy upon completion of a project.
- Inspect and certify buildings, businesses and occupancies related to annual licensing and code requirements.
- Investigate complaints and zoning violations. Determine zoning compliance.

There were 34 building permits approved for new single-family homes in 2007 as compared to 42 permits in 2006. There were 10 building permits issued for multi-family units. Permits for residential additions and alterations numbered 260 in 2007 and there were 264 permits for roofing, siding and windows. The total estimated cost of residential construction was \$18,078,075.

Commercial construction activity fell slightly in 2007 to \$13,631,116 of estimated cost.

Receipts of \$88,052 were collected for wiring, plumbing, gas and mechanical permits.

The Inspector of Buildings issued 64 Certificates of Inspection and 139 Certificates of Occupancy.

The Inspections Department performed 2,907 daily inspections and 28 emergency inspections. The Inspectional Services Department collected fees in the amount of \$333,249 for the calendar year 2007.

Again I would like to thank a dedicated and talented staff and all Town Departments for their assistance and support throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

D. Mark Trivett, CBO
Inspector of Buildings
Zoning Enforcement Officer
ADA Coordinator

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Department Organization

On July 1, 2007, the Department of Planning and Community Development was created. The mission of this Department is to promote a vibrant and healthy community through the application of contemporary planning methods. It is responsible for processing permits reviewed by the Planning & Zoning Board and the Conservation Commission, as well as, taking a leadership role in the long-range planning efforts of the Town. The Department also provides staff support to the Cemetery Commission, the Community Preservation Act Committee, the Historical Commission, Housing Partnership and other town boards and committees as needed.

Staff

Marc R. Rousseau is the Director of Planning and Community Development. In addition to managing the Department, Marc oversees the long-term planning and economic development efforts of the Town. He serves as staff liaison to the Community Preservation Act Committee and supports the Zoning Board of Appeals as needed. Contact: mrrousseau@easton.ma.us

Alice A. Savage is the Staff Planner responsible for providing technical review of permit, site plan and subdivision applications submitted to the Planning & Zoning Board and staff liaison to the Housing Partnership. Contact Alice for assistance with filing a special permit application, questions related to site plan review, zoning requirements, or requests to appear before the Planning & Zoning Board. Contact: asavage@easton.ma.us

Stephanie Danielson is the Land Use Agent, responsible for providing technical review of permit applications submitted to the Conservation Commission and staff liaison to the Historical Commission. Contact Stephanie for assistance with filings with the Conservation Commission and other Wetlands Protection Act (WPA) and town Wetlands Protection Bylaw questions or concerns, or requests to appear before the Commission. Contact: sdanielson@easton.ma

Pam Almeida is the Planning and Community Development Department Clerk. Contact Pam for assistance with general inquiries, obtaining copies of public records, and filing applications for reviews under the Conservation Commission or Planning & Zoning Board. Contact: palmeida@easton.ma.us

Selected Activities & Accomplishments

Permitting Automation. The department is evaluating permitting automation software that will eliminate much of the redundancy and manual effort involved in tracking and issuing wetlands protection and Planning Board permits. Continued demonstrations have been scheduled for staff in January 2008.

Public Access to Information. The Department has launched its own website and redesigned the websites of the Planning and Zoning Board and the Housing Partnership, providing greater access to Easton Rules and Regulations, maps, news, and links which may be of interest to Easton residents.

Historic Preservation Plan. The Historic Preservation Plan was finalized the end of December. The Historical Commission should be scheduling presentations of the plan to various boards and the public during the beginning of the new year.

Open Space & Recreation Plan Update. The Department of Planning and Community Development has contracted with the Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC—Easton's Regional Planning Authority) to update Easton's Open Space and Recreation plan, and reviewed the first draft of the plan update in December. A second draft is expected to be completed in January, 2008.

Conservation Management Plan. An RFP for developing a land management plan for the conservation lands owned by the town and the Conservation Commission was sent out in November with a deadline of December 12, 2007 for submittal. The objective of the plan is to ensure the intended goals and purposes for acquiring the land are being achieved and the property is being appropriately maintained to meet those goals. The end product of this contract will be a document that provides an appropriate plan of management for each of the larger parcels of conservation land under management and provides an umbrella plan of management inclusive of the many smaller parcels of conservation land under management of the Commission. It is anticipated this project will take 12 months to complete.

Stormwater Management and Low Impact Development Task Force. Planning & Community Development initiated a Stormwater Management/Low Impact Development task force which will look for ways for Easton to encourage sustainable development practices, increase awareness of non-point source water pollution, and comply with new, Federal stormwater management regulations. The task force is charged with reviewing the town's existing stormwater management policies and regulations, developing a policy and guidebook clarifying the town's stormwater management policies and encouraging Low Impact Development (LID) methods, increasing public awareness to stormwater management. The kick-off meeting for the task force was December 20, 2007.

Management of Public Lands. DPCD contracted with the BSC Group to develop conceptual plans for approval by the Planning & Zoning Board and Conservation Commission for 300 Foundry Street, a town-owned parcel that was found to be unsuitable for recreation purposes. The work done should increase the sales price of the parcel, allowing the Town to recoup the expenses associated with the original purchase, as well as the expenses of doing the site work.

2007 REPORT OF THE EASTON PLANNING & ZONING BOARD

We hereby submit the following report for the Year 2007 for the Easton Planning & Zoning Board. The Board continues to work responsibly with the administration and implementation of the Flexible Development Zoning By Laws adopted at Town Meeting in February 2000. These flexible zoning by-laws include Adult Retirement Developments, Open Space Residential Developments, Residential Compounds, Estate Lots and Common Driveways. These creative land planning and growth management tools have assisted with meeting the following community objectives:

- * Encouraging more environmentally sensitive development;
- * Preserving larger tracts of open space within or adjacent to new developments;
- * Preserving Easton's remaining rural character;
- * Minimizing long-term operating costs to the town through the approval of more private ways;
- * Reducing the number of driveway cuts on a way thereby minimizing any public safety threat.

Specifically, the Planning and Zoning Board approved or denied thirteen (13) applications. These include two (2) Residential Compound Special Permit applications, two (2) Estate Lot Special Permit applications and three (3) Common Driveway Special Permit applications, two (2) Definitive Subdivision Special Permits, two (2) Definitive Subdivision Modifications, and two (2) Special Permit Modifications.

In 2007, the Board met a total of twenty-two (22) times on Wednesday nights. The Board also had site walks or a special meeting at a proposed development twice during the year. In addition to the Special Permit Applications, the Board addressed Approval Not Required Plans (Form A), Preliminary Subdivision Plans, Definitive Subdivision Plans, Site Plan Applications, Surety Release, Lot Release (Form E and/or F), and Zoning Board of Appeals Comments.

Seventeen (17) "Form A" - Approval Not Required Plans were endorsed. These plans represent potential building lots which have adequate frontage on an existing way that did not require approval under the Subdivision Control Law (MGL, Chapter 41). Some of these plans created new lots and others combined existing lots into one.

Three (3) Preliminary Subdivision Plans were approved by the Board. They included Presidential Path, Elmwood Estates and Rockland Bay Estates.

Two (2) Definitive Subdivision Plans were submitted during 2007. Both of these plans were submitted in conjunction with Special Permit applications for Residential Compounds as noted above. Stonemoor Estates, an application for a proposed eight lot Residential Compound was approved. Bayberry Estates, a proposed 8 lot subdivision, is still being heard before the Board.

Seventeen (17) Site Plans were approved or reviewed in 2007. They included site plans for Sun Terrace, Ford Village, Union Village Extension, Kane's Funeral Home, Easton Gas, North Easton Savings Bank, Stonehill College Science Center, 174 Washington Street, Stonehill College Modular Units, 403 Turnpike Street, Raven Estates, 720 Depot Street, Stonemoor Estates, Pharmasol (1 Norfolk Ave), Blue Heron Run, Ames Free Library, Maplewood Enrichment Day Camp.

Additional Board and Staff time was spent on the following types of business:

- * Public Hearings - Acceptance of Streets (33)
- * Public Hearings - Modification of Previously Approved Definitive Subdivisions
- * Public Hearings - Modification of Previously Approved Special Permits
- * Public Hearings – Cottage Development Bylaw
- * Modifications to Previously Approved Site Plans
- * Public Hearings - Amendments to the Zoning Map and Zoning by Law
- * Release of Surety for Completion of Roadways and Related Improvements (23)
- * Recommendations on cases to be heard by the Zoning Board of Appeals (19)
- * Commenting on License Renewal applications pending before the Board of Selectmen
- * Working with developers to complete Unfinished Roads
- * Administration and follow-up related to the implementation of Special Permit Approvals
- * Meeting with Potential Development Applicants
- * Actively participating in Development Review Committee Meetings
- * Monitoring proposed Smart Growth Legislation dealing with Land Use / Zoning Reform
- * Advocating and implementing improvements to the Planning Process
- * Discussion of Community Vision Dialogue
- * Discussion of 40R, Queset Commons project

In July, Christopher Kone was not re-appointed as Chairman, and the Board voted Christine M. Santoro, Esq. as their new Chair. The Board wishes Mr. Kone well and appreciates and acknowledges his years of service to the Town. Gregory Strange, Alternate Member, was appointed as Member. Additionally, Carol Symmons was appointed as Alternate Member.

The Board appreciates the professional abilities, accomplishments and dedication provided by Director Marc R. Rousseau, the department's new Staff Planner, Alice A. Savage and new department Secretary, Pamela Almeida. The Board would also like to thank our Town Administrator, David A. Colton, for his professionalism and support, as well as the various Town Departments, Boards, and Commissions for their cooperation and support.

In closing, any fellow citizen of Easton wishing to discuss an issue of concern may communicate this matter by calling the Planning & Zoning Board Office at 508-230-0630 or by contacting the Staff Planner by email at asavage@easton.ma.us or the Director of the Planning & Community Development Department by Email at mrrousseau@easton.ma.us. The Board also maintains an Internet presence on the Town of Easton web site.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine M. Santoro, Esq, Chair
Colin W. Gillis, Esq., Clerk
Alan Weeks, Member
Walter H. Johnson, Member
Gregory Strange, Member
Carol Symmons, Alternate Member

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Easton Conservation Commission administers, within the Town of Easton, the State Wetlands Protection Act, Mass. General Laws, Chapter 131, Section 40 et seq. (the Act) and the Wetlands Protection By-Law (the By-law), Chapter 227, Code of the Town of Easton with the regulations promulgated there under, 310CMR 10.55 et seq. under the Act and Chapter 503 of the Town Code as to the By-Law.

The Commission is primarily responsible for Open Space planning and land acquisition for the purposes of land and wildlife preservation. The Commission has custody and control (on behalf of the Town), of nearly four thousand acres of land held for conservation purposes. There were four land additional acquisitions during 2007, totaling 23.4 Acres.

Another key area of Commission jurisdiction is enforcement. Violations of the Act and/or the By-Law, are investigated and where needed, appropriate proceedings follow. In 2007, the Commission initiated nine enforcement actions. Enforcement action occurs when, either through observation by the Commission, its staff, or by citizen complaint, activities take place in violation of the Act or the Bylaw. Many of these situations occur due to a lack of awareness of the laws. During enforcement, our primary objective is to work with people who are in violation to educate them, restore the impacted resource area and prevent future violations. In general, most parties involved in a violation are very cooperative and these matters are relatively easy to resolve. When necessary, however, the Commission has resources available to remedy violations. These include: civil action, criminal complaint, injunctive relief, and the imposition of fines, including the Non-Criminal Disposition procedures authorized by Town By-Laws.

In 2007, the Commission held 59 public hearings requesting permits for work and confirmation of wetland resource area delineations. Due to the complexity of several projects or the need for additional information from applicants, a number of these meetings were continued and required to be heard over a series of meetings of the Commission. The Commission issued 45 Orders of Conditions and Permits for Work, 4 Order of Resource Area Delineations, 15 Determinations of Applicability and 38 Certificates of Compliance. Two appeals of By-Law decisions were decided by Superior Court this year. One ruling favored the Commission; the other favored the applicant.

The Commission and its staff are integral to the Town's Planning and Community Development Department. Our Land Use Agent conducted 150+ jurisdictional inspections in response to filings made by constituents for Building Permits, a number of which resulted in filings before the Commission. The staff also provided technical review and comment to the following Boards, Commissions and Departments (number of reviews provided shown in parentheses):

- Zoning Board of Appeals (53)
- The Department of Public Works (18)
- Planning and Zoning Board (88)
- Board of Health (9)
- Town Administrator (10)

In July, the Commission saw the resignation of two long time members: its Chair, Barry DunKley and Commissioner Patricia Somers. Associate Member Jonathan Chace was appointed to the Commission along with Michael A. Ganshirt. Patricia Haederle was appointed Chair; Kyla Bennett was appointed Vice Chair.

The Commission began the process of updating the 5-year Open Space Plan this past year. This document serves as a guidebook for land preservation in Easton, providing the roadmap for future land acquisition and management. Input was sought from other commissions and boards including the Historical Commission, the Recreation Commission and the Community Preservation Committee. The updated plan is expected to be completed in Winter 2008.

The Commission also issued a Request for Proposal to develop a comprehensive management plan for the existing conservation land holdings. This plan will help ensure the goals and objectives for acquiring and preserving land are met into the future.

In order to keep abreast of new developments and regulations, the staff attended educational workshops including the Smart Growth/Smart Energy Conference, the Annual MACC Environmental Conference, and Wetlands Regulatory Exemptions and Exceptions: Proper Application and Preventing Abuse.

The Commission may be reached via e-mail, phone at (508) 230-0630 or by fax at (508) 230-0639. Commission meetings are generally held on the first and third Monday evenings, and Tuesday evenings when there is a Holiday on the Monday and our meeting schedule is posted on the website. All meetings are open to the public, except for Executive Sessions, and town residents are always most welcome.

The Commission would like to thank our Land Use Agent, Stephanie Danielson, for her excellent and thoughtful work. We are exceptionally lucky to employ Ms. Danielson, who brings a wealth of knowledge from her current position as Chair of the Brockton Conservation, to support our efforts in Easton. We also extend our thanks to Pamela Almeida, the Department secretary and frontline to the public for her dedication and commitment. Pamela is responsible for ensuring the process for dispensing information and permitting projects flows smoothly. Thank you also to Stacey Lincoln, the Commission's recording secretary, for her preparation of meeting minutes.

Further, we express our gratitude to the Town Administrator, Board of Selectmen, and all appointed and elected Boards and Commissions of the Town with whom we interface. We are grateful to the citizens of the Town of Easton, for their cooperation and their support as we perform the duties entrusted to us.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Haederle, Chair
(phaederle@yahoo.com)

Kyla Bennett, Vice Chair
(biojustus@comcast.net)

John E. Grant
(crgelachie@aol.com)

Jonathan D. Chace
(jcchace@comcast.net)

Michael A. Ganshirt
(wawaloon@comcast.net)

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF APPEALS

We, the members of the Board of Appeals respectfully submit the following annual report for the year 2007.

The Board of Appeal's responsibilities are to hear applications filed for Special Permits, Variances and Administrative Appeals pursuant to Chapter 40A, Mass. General Laws and Comprehensive Permits pursuant to Chapter 40B, Mass. General Laws. Twenty-Eight (28) petitions, comprised of nine (9) Variances; fourteen (14) Special Permits; one (1) Site Plan; three (3) Administrative Appeals and one (1) Comprehensive Permit were received by the Board of Appeals during the year, which in conformity with the law, were duly advertised and copies of notices were given to all Town Boards and mailed to all parties of interest as defined in Section 11, Chapter 40A, Mass. General Laws.

In 2007, August Gangi and Frederick W. Clark, Jr. resigned from their positions on the Board of Appeals. The Board of Selectmen appointed Scott E. Erlich and Paul T. Prew as Alternate Board Members.

The Board of Appeals would like to thank August Gangi and Frederick W. Clark, Jr. for their contributions to the Board during their tenure.

In 2007, Margaret Horne resigned from her position as Secretary to The Board of Appeals. We thank her for her service and contribution to the Board and wish her well in her new position as Principal Clerk for the Town Accountant's Office. The Board welcomed Ellen Weene to fill that position.

	Comprehensive Permit	Variance	Special Permit	Site Plan	Adm Appeal
Petitions Granted	1	6	11	1	2
Petitions Denied		2	2		
Petitions Withdrawn/Dismissed Chapter 40B					
Continued to 2008		1			
To Be Heard in 2008			1		1

The Board wishes to recognize and commend all Town Officials and personnel who provided assistance to the Board during the year.

The Board of Appeals Secretary can be reached at the Town Offices at (508)230-0590.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Mirrione, Chairman
Thomas A. Pursley, Vice-Chairman
Stephen Pinzari, Clerk
John Tupper
Christopher Pike
Scott E. Erlich, Alternate
Paul T. Prew, Alternate

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON BOARD OF HEALTH

In compliance with the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, it is our pleasure to herewith submit to you a summary of the work done under the Board of Health for the year 2007.

Robert J. Kane was elected to a three-year term at the annual election in April. Mr. Robert J. Kane was elected Chairman. Staff included Director of Public Health Mr. Wade D. Saucier, R.S., C.H.O., Assistant Health Director Ms. Kristin C. Kennedy, R.S., Food Inspector Ms. Yvonne Naimey, Food Inspector Mr. Timothy Meyers, Administrative Assistant/Burial Agent Ms. Jo A. Pilz, Clerk/Burial Agent Ms. Teresa M. Wooding, Animal Inspector Mr. John D. Melin and Animal Inspector Ms. Elizabeth J. DeRosa. Mr. Saucier and Ms. Kennedy maintained their education requirements for their state licenses by attending numerous professional education classes throughout the year. Mr. Kane, Mr. Heino and Dr. Kligler attended an annual certification seminar for Boards of Health. This seminar educated the Board members on public health issues and laws.

The first half of the year we had lost two positions in the office. Ms. Pilz retired from her full time position after 21 years of service. Ms. Naimey left her part time position for a full time position with National Food Sanitation. The office was fortunate to be able to hire two temporary employees to assist in the daily responsibilities of the Board of Health.

The second half of the year, Ms Wooding became full time from her previous part time position. We were fortunate to hire Mr. Timothy Meyers as a part time inspector. Our part time clerical position was not filled.

The Board of Health met 22 times in public meeting forum this year.

The Board of Health responsibilities are numerous, varied and focused on overall community health. Our responsibilities can be viewed on our website, www.easton.ma for your convenience.

In 2005, a committee was formed by the Town Administrator to review the town's residential solid waste removal. Mr. Saucier was asked to be part of this group. The committee looked at options using a single vendor. The committee's recommendation was to proceed with a preferred vender curbside solid waste and recycling program. The Board of Health assisted in writing grant applications, town contract, technical involvement and regulatory development and adoption. Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Waste Prevention awarded the town \$30,000 for the purchase of recycling bins upon adoption of a municipally sponsored-curbside recycling program and grants 50 hours of MassDEP personnel time to assist with implementation of a new curbside solid waste and recycling program.

In our continuous involvement with the town's preferred vender curbside solid waste and recycling program much effort was directed in educating the public during the winter and spring months prior to the start of the program. In a collaborative effort with the Solid Waste Committee a number of outreach education forums were offered. One of the public forums was recorded by the local cable company to provide an educational show. Educational articles were also written by some of the Solid Waste Committee members that were published in the local newspaper.

The Board of Health office, with an unexpected fifty percent reduction in staff, proceeded with the start of the town's preferred vender solid waste and recycling program. Our responsibilities involved creating educational information consisting of mailings and postings on the department's website. One Website posting was a power point presentation explaining the program. We also received incoming opt out forms as well as processing the data the office received. We experienced a high volume of residents utilizing the office for opt out forms and other Board of Health issues. This program was unique to the town and state by

having a town sponsored company to service the residents in this capacity. We also coordinated the grant awarded recycling bins delivery and coordinated the distribution of the bins with the awarded vender company Waste Management.

To improve efficiency and reduce waste, the Board of Health office concentrated on developing a streamline procedure using our computer technology to create permit applications and permits, distribute material to potential applicants, improve review time of incoming applications and issue permit(s) to the applicant(s) in a timely manner. Included in this process the Board of Health was receptive to move all annual permits to start at the calendar year. This did not include seasonal permits.

To improve efficiency and create a better work environment, the clerical work space was reorganized. The area consisted of two independent work stations that were combined into one. The office benefited by additional desk top surface areas, customer counter space, additional filing cabinet space and accessibility to files that were not easily available due to the separate work spaces.

Public health nursing services were provided by contractual agreement with Health Care Options, Inc., an affiliate of Community Visiting Nurse Agency (CVNA) of Attleboro. Ms. Maureen Cardarelli, R.N., the town's contact nurse, provided the Board with excellent service and professional advice throughout the year. The cumulative statistics for the 2007 calendar year are as follows: Total Immunizations, 637 residents; Mantoux testing, 4 residents; Lead Level Screening, 0; Health Promotion Clinics, 264 residents including 189 residents for Blood Pressure, 57 residents for Blood Sugar, 18 residents for Total Cholesterol Screening and 0 residents for vaccinations; Communicable Disease, 38 investigations; Maternal Child, 0 contacts; Latent Tuberculosis Infections, 5 follow ups of reported cases. The CVNA also served as the vaccine distribution center to a number of providers within the community for the Board of Health. We also provided a public health nurse for one hour each month (every fourth Monday), at the Town Offices, for town residents or employees. The nurse is available for Blood Pressure, Blood Sugar screenings and information regarding your health or the health of your loved ones.

The rabies epizootic still exists in town. Preventative measures to protect your domestic pets are advised. In the spring of 2007, two rabies clinics were held. On April 15, 2007, 39 dogs and 14 cats were vaccinated. On April 29, 2007, 48 dogs and 25 cats were vaccinated. A total of 126 animals were vaccinated by the program. The State of Massachusetts requires that all dogs and cats be vaccinated for rabies.

The West Nile Virus (WNV) and the Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus (EEEV) are both a public health concern. State wide, for the West Nile Virus, there were 6 human cases, 43 birds, 0 horses and 65 mosquito pools that had tested positive for the virus. At the local level, 29 birds were reported, 2 birds were submitted to the state lab and 2 birds tested positive. There were 5 mosquito pools that tested positive for WNV. For the Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus, state wide, there were 31 mosquito pools, 0 human cases, and 0 horses that were confirmed as positive cases. At the local level there were 2 mosquito pools that tested positive for the virus and 0 horse fatalities. Both viruses are passed on from the bird population to the mosquito. The virus is then passed on to the mosquito's next host(s), human or animal, when the female mosquito draws blood for her eggs to develop inside her. As a preventative measure to control the viruses, Bristol County Mosquito Control Project offers an adult mosquito spraying program each spring which continues throughout the summer months. The spraying is done on request by either local residents or city/town officials. The telephone number for Bristol County Mosquito Control is 508-823-5253.

There were 784 permits issued by the Board of Health. The breakdown is as follows: Body Art Establishment, 0; Body Art Practitioner, 0; Camps/Motels/Trailer Parks, 8; Caterers, 4; Death Certificates, 76; Dumpsters, 187; Dumpster Service, 13; Food Establishments, 168; Funeral Directors, 3; Disposal System Construction Permits, 151; Disposal Works Installer Permits, 66; Massage Licenses, 28; Mobile Food, 0; Outdoor Sanitary Facilities, 0; Public/Semi-public Swimming Pools, 13; Tanning Facilities, 5; Tobacco Sales Permits, 36; Residential curbside 5; and Transport Offal, 21.

The office logged 30 valid complaints from the general public. If you have any questions, concerns, need advice or information, you may reach our office at 508-230-0620.

The Board appreciates the cooperation of the various town boards and departments and continues to work closely with the Department of Public Health and the Department of Environmental Protection and other agencies of the Commonwealth.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Kane, Chairman
Gil A. Heino
Dr. Roger M. Kligler

EASTON BOARD OF HEALTH

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ANIMAL INSPECTOR

We are the officers in the field for the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Division of Regulatory and Biosecurity Services, the Massachusetts Department of Health, the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, the Environmental police and the local Board of Health.

The West Nile Virus is still in our area. The Department of Public Health has to be called before submitting a bird to be tested. They have guidelines such as the kind of bird, not dead more than twenty-four hours and must be free of maggots, flies or ants. We picked up thirty-seven birds fifteen were submitted for testing, two came back positive.

We had thirty-one animal bites. Twenty-one dogs, seven cats and three bats, two dogs and the three bats were submitted to the lab for rabies tests; the other dogs and the cats were placed under a ten day quarantine period.

A domestic animal that has a wound of unknown origin or an encounter with wildlife is put under confinement, if the animal is unvaccinated it is place under a six month confinement otherwise the confinement for a vaccinated animal is forty-five days. Two dogs and three cats were placed under confinement.

Animal census: thirty-two horses, eight goats, four sheep, twenty-two beef cattle and seventy-two chickens.

As the habitat for wildlife is decreasing the sightings of wildlife in back yards has increased. Deer, coyotes, skunks, raccoons, opossum, fishers and turkeys are being seen more often in our town. Many calls are received concerning wildlife of these calls seventy-two were given advice and sixty-seven of the cases resulted in the animal being released on site or being destroyed.

We must remember that wildlife are survivors in the wild, so it is important that we do not feed them. Keep your rubbish barrels covered all the time, don't leave your animals foods outside at night. You must remember these animals are always seeking an easy accessible food source.

We educate the public on issues of animal diseases; investigate all animal bites and issue quarantines and confinement notices. We check on the handling and care of domestic livestock and other domestic animals we have as pets according to State laws. We work closely with the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the Animal Rescue League. We receive advice and work with the practicing veterinarians and have knowledge and experience in handling common urban wildlife.

We may be reached by calling 508-230-3353 or 508-230-0620.

We would like to thank the members of the Board of Health, Director Wade Saucier and his office help, the Town Administrator and his office, Town Clerk and her office help, the Police, Fire and Department of Public Works. Your help throughout the years is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

John Melin, Animal Inspector
Elizabeth DeRosa, Animal Inspector

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Historical Commission continues in its efforts to identify, evaluate and protect Easton's historic and archeological resources. The Commission works cooperatively with the Town's other commissions, boards and committees to monitor and help control any effects that development and change can bring to Easton's unique historic character. We are available as a resource to any citizen for information and guidance regarding the preservation of historic properties, landscapes and archeological sites in the town of Easton.

The Commission's activities this past year have included the following:

- Working with consultant Al Lima to develop a comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan
- Continuing active support of the Unity Church restoration project
- Consulting with the owner of the North Easton Grammar School and Lincoln Street Intermediate School as final restoration is being completed
- Consulting with the owner of the old Methodist church on Mechanic Street regarding restoration of that property
- Reviewing options for developing a maintenance plan for The Rockery
- Monitoring the disposition of Harmony Hall and the Dean Mill properties
- Monitoring plans for development at Shovel Shops
- Monitoring plans for restoration of Queset Garden, located behind the Ames Free Library and the Rose Garden, located adjacent to Town Hall
- Working with property owners throughout the year on various restorations, additions and preservation projects.

The Commission presented awards again this year at its annual ceremony on December 2nd at the Unity Church. The purpose of these awards is to offer recognition to those who have expended effort in preservation and restoration of our town's many treasures, whether great or small. Elizabeth and Oliver Ames were presented with the W.L.Chaffin Award and the Immaculate Conception Church received the Clement C.Briggs Award. The event, which also featured the "Beauty of Easton" photography contest, was well attended. We thank the Bank of Easton for its continued support and Unity Church for hosting this popular event.

The Boston Post Cane has been passed on to Amalie Kramer, Easton's most elderly resident. Thanks to North Easton Savings Bank for its generous sponsorship of this program.

During the past year, members of the Committee were active in other town roles and community organizations. Melanie Deware is the clerk of the Cemetery Commission. John Ventresco is a director of the Friends of Borderland. Edmund Hands serves on the Community Preservation Act Committee, the Board of the Natural Resources Trust and on the board of the Historical Society. Dr. Greg Galer is a member of the Town/Gown Committee between Stonehill College and the Town of Easton. Associate Member Cathy Adler chaired Easton's "No Place for Hate" campaign. Associate member Larry Mowatt served on the Library Building Committee and spearheaded the NRT barn raising project. Associate Member Frank Mennino serves as curator of the Historical Society. Most Commission members are also members of the Easton Historical Society and the Natural Resources Trust of Easton.

The Commission welcomes comments and questions and is eager to assist any citizen with issues related to the historical aspect of the Town. Whether we can help with a restoration/renovation issue, homestead research, or understanding by-laws, please contact us via the Town Offices at 136 Elm Street, North Easton, through our link on the town website: www.easton.ma.us, or by calling the Chairman at 508 238 0373.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie J.L. Deware, Chairman
John J. Ventresco, Vice Chairman
Marcy Stefura, Secretary
Mary Fitzgerald
Dr. Gregory J. Galer
Edmund Hands
David Olson
Larry Mowatt, Associate Member
Catherine Adler, Associate Member
Frank Mennino, Associate Member

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

The Housing Partnership Committee (HPC) is charged with the following responsibilities:

1. To assist in the development and/or updating of the Town's Affordable Housing Plan.
2. Explore opportunities to expand affordable housing in accordance with Easton's Affordable Housing Plan
3. Work with the Community Preservation Act Committee to develop ideas eligible for CPA funding, and recommend same to the Board of Selectmen.
4. Participate in the review of all comprehensive permit applications.
5. Develop proposed application materials for comprehensive permits for use by the HPC, Board of Appeals and Board of Selectmen.
6. Submit annual report for inclusion to the Town Report.

Comprehensive Permits:

In 2007, the HPC met with representatives from Mirrione Realty Corporation and Turner Brothers, LLC regarding their respective Chapter 40B applications. Our meetings with each Chapter 40B Applicant were initiated under the Comprehensive Permit Policy that had approved by the Board of Selectmen in April. The guidelines are intended to communicate the Town of Easton's preferences for housing developed under Chapter 40B. The Policy identifies the HPC as the initial point of contact for all new affordable housing developments, including comprehensive permit applications. Although the HPC has no approval or denial authority, it provides recommendations to the Design Review Team, Zoning Board of Appeals, and the Board of Selectmen.

The HPC met with Mirrione Realty Corporation to discuss two potential Chapter 40B applications, Eastondale Cottages and West Meadow Cottages. The HPC gave both projects a favorable recommendation and submitted a summary of our meetings to the Design Review Team. The Design Review Team is charged with reviewing the project before the Applicant formally files a Chapter 40B application. West Meadow Cottages has 13 units in Easton and Eastondale Cottages has 28 units, as currently proposed by Mirrione Realty Corporation. Twenty percent of the units would be restricted to households earning no more than 80% of the area median income (AMI) and would be counted towards the State Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI). Currently, three percent of Easton's housing inventory is considered affordable under State guidelines.

The HPC met with Turner Brothers, LLC in December after they had submitted their Chapter 40B application for Shovel Shop Square, a 182 unit adaptive reuse multifamily project. Additionally, 35,000 square feet of commercial space at the site will be rehabilitated. The HPC did not submit comments regarding the project in 2007. Although 25% of the units will be affordable to households earning no more than 80% of AMI, the State SHI count includes both affordable and market rate rental units and all 182 rental units would be added to Easton's affordable housing inventory.

Expanding Affordable Housing:

As part of our responsibility to explore opportunities that would increase affordable housing in Easton, the HPC researched and considered inclusionary and incentive zoning as a potential housing policy. However, the HPC determined since these policy measures did not result in substantial increases in affordable housing units produced in other Massachusetts towns, other policy changes would be considered.

The HPC sent a letter of support for the Cottage By-Law to the Planning Board. The HPC believed that that this bylaw would have provided an attainable housing alternative to traditional single-family homes or condominium buildings. Additionally, the units would have been priced at levels affordable to middle income households. The 2007 median family income in Easton-Raynham, MA HMFA was \$93,200. The Cottage By-Law was rejected at the November town meeting.

The HPC also looked to increase its visibility by increasing collaboration with the Fair Housing Committee and the Easton Housing Authority. Additionally, to better educate the Town's residents about the role of the HPC, the committee improved their website by providing downloadable reports and information relating to the role and responsibility of the committee.

We would like to thank former committee members Cheryl Brightman and Scott Erlich, and especially former Chairwoman Peg Ryan, for their invaluable contributions to the committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Hansen, Chair
Ilisabeth Bornstein, Secretary
Mary Fitzgerald

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The Town of Easton's Community Preservation Committee (CPC) is comprised of four citizens "at large" and five members selected from other Town boards and committees. The citizens-at-large include Michael Boyle, former member of the Capital Improvements Planning Committee and Finance Committee; Patricia Hunt, Esq., former selectwoman and former FinCom member; James D. Mullen, Jr., Water Advisory Commission member, former selectman and former FinCom member; and Avery Lee Williams, businessperson active in many community organizations. John Grant serves on the committee for the Easton Conservation Commission; Edmund Hands serves for the Easton Historical Commission; and Mike McDonald, Chairperson of the Recreation Commission, serves for the Recreation Commission. We want to welcome Christine Santoro, Esq., Chairperson of the Easton Planning and Zoning Board, who serves for the PZB; and Dennis Sheedy, serving for the Easton Housing Authority. We want to thank departing Planning and Zoning Board Chairman Christopher Kone for his loyal service to the Committee since its inception and also want to thank Mike Malloy of the Easton Housing Authority for his service.

As mentioned in prior reports, the Community Preservation Act was signed into law in September of 2000, to provide a dedicated funding stream for the preservation of open space, historic resources and community housing. At that time, statistics were showing that open space in Massachusetts was being developed at a rate of 44 acres per day and our legislators realized that funding would be needed to preserve our fast-disappearing open spaces. CPA funding is provided through a local real estate tax surcharge and a statewide registry of deeds surcharge. The state funds are distributed to participating communities as matching funds in October of each year. The state match can be as much as 100% of the total amount raised by a community in the preceding fiscal year, depending upon how much revenue is collected by the state and how many communities are participating. Easton's CPA surcharge has two exemptions: the first \$100,000 of value of each residence and an exemption for property owned by lower income persons.

We are pleased to report that in October of 2007, the town received \$822,539 from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in Community Preservation matching funds. This is the sixth 100% state match received by the Town of Easton. Because Easton voters had the foresight to adopt CPA at the outset, Easton has maximized its receipt of state matching funds. This latest award increases Easton's state matching funds to \$3,607,736. So far, for every dollar that we have raised, we've received a dollar from the state – a 100% return on our investment. We also note that at the time of our report to you last year, there were 119 CPA communities. There are now 127. As time goes by, more and more communities are adopting CPA.

Through December 31, 2007, Easton has raised \$8,142,649, with \$3,607,736 of those funds being state matching funds. 10% of that total must be dedicated to each of the three community preservation purposes: historic preservation; community housing; and open space preservation. The balance of CPA funds are not reserved for any particular community preservation purpose, but must be spent on community preservation projects. The money cannot be directed to ordinary town expenditures. CPA funds can only be spent as the CPA law states and upon a favorable recommendation of the CPA Committee and town meeting approval. As of 12/31/07, there was \$727,784 in CPA housing reserves; \$272,784 in historic preservation reserves; \$568,054 in open space reserves; and \$5,812,147 in unreserved CPA funds.

Although we might at first think that there are ample CPA funds in reserve, we need to keep in mind the anticipated costs of projects that are in the pipeline. As previously outlined during town meeting presentations and in prior reports, the Committee anticipates the major expenditures from CPA funds will be in land acquisitions. This year, the Committee has been reviewing six separate land acquisitions, for recreation, conservation, and historic preservation. If we follow the town's Open Space and Recreation Plan, the town's long-term open space and recreation needs can be satisfied by acquiring the land needed for protection of water supply and watershed areas; for preservation of the town's major scenic vistas and historic landscapes; to connect important wildlife habitat and green spaces; and to accommodate the

community's current and future needs for passive and active recreation and for recreational field space. One of the priority parcels identified by the Committee contains more than 100 acres and is suitable for a new recreational playing fields complex. We believe that such an important acquisition would satisfy the town's current and future needs for recreational playing fields. When we consider the costs of large parcels of land in Easton, we realize that we need to be thoughtful in the selection of projects to ensure that sufficient funds will be available for these priority parcels when they come up for sale. When it comes to land acquisition, there are no second chances. Once land is sold to development, it is gone and cannot then be preserved or acquired for town use.

The town's approved CPA projects are as follows.

Historic Resources: This year, \$5000 was granted to fund, in part, the Historic Commission's Historic Preservation Plan. The Committee is also currently reviewing the restoration of an important historic structure in Easton and several smaller historic restoration projects. Past historic preservation projects approved by town meeting include \$380,000 toward the Historic Unity Church Restoration project (in exchange for a restriction for preservation and public access running to the town) and \$100,000 for the Olmstead Rockery restoration project. In both cases, CPA funds were leveraged to obtain additional funding.

Open Space and Recreation: Recreation - The Committee has funded two feasibility studies for the creation of new recreation fields. The town-owned parcel on Foundry Street was determined unsuitable and the second parcel is not available for purchase at this time. The Committee is in the process of reviewing two other parcels and is working closely with the Recreation Commission toward the creation of additional town playing fields. We feel that an investment in interim field space is needed to meet the town's needs until the priority recreation parcel becomes available for purchase.

Open Space - In 2006, Town Meeting approved the acquisition of a 40-acre parcel of land located on Dean Street for \$1.375 million. The parcel is located entirely within the Hockomock Swamp Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and is adjacent to Wheaton Farm. This parcel serves as a critical link in the "green" corridor that runs from the Hockomock Swamp to Wheaton Farm and on to Borderland State Park. At the present time, the committee is reviewing two parcels of land that are priority acquisitions.

It may be worthy to note at this point what the CPA Committee does when it reviews a parcel considered for acquisition. The Committee reviews any plans related to the site. We walk the site and speak to persons familiar with the site, including the owner. We seek the advice of whatever consultants may be helpful – recreation field designers, wetlands experts, engineers. We retain qualified appraisers to value the property. We review the financial implications of a purchase. In essence, we strive to ensure that all of the information is available so that we and everyone else involved can make an informed decision whether to purchase a parcel. Then, the information is presented to town meeting for decision.

Community Housing: A past Town Meeting approved CPA funding for the May Institute Project for developmentally disabled young adults and funds for an Affordable Housing Plan. The Committee encourages the submission of proposals for affordable housing projects.

There are two websites that contain information on the Community Preservation Act. One is the website of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs at www.state.ma.us/envir and the other is at www.communitypreservation.org. Easton's CPA Committee also lists information on the Town's website at www.easton.ma.us. The Committee meets on a monthly basis at the Town Offices and more often, as needed. Our meetings are open to the public and we encourage the public to attend. We hold one public hearing each year and report to the Town Meeting on an annual basis. All CPA projects must be approved by Town Meeting. We can be reached through the Easton Town Offices, 136 Elm St. Easton, MA 02356.

In closing, we want to thank Town Administrator David Colton for his assistance. We also want to thank Town Accountant Wendy Nightingale for her valuable financial and accounting assistance and Mike Deltano for assisting us with our webpage. We thank the Selectmen for their continued support of CPA and

the Committee's efforts. Primarily, appreciation is due to the people of Easton for their foresight in passing the Community Preservation Act and for their continued support of its goals.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Hunt, Chair, for the Committee
James D. Mullen, Jr., Vice Chair
John Grant, Clerk
Michael Boyle
Edmund Hands
Michael McDonald
Christine Santoro, Esq.
Dennis Sheedy
Avery Lee Williams

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES BOARD

The Human Resource Board provides assistance to the Town and the Board of Selectmen for issues relating to Town employees. The Human Resource Board has previously worked with an outside consultant on a wage plan for non-union employees and is currently assisting the Town Administrator with the implementation of an employee handbook.

For questions regarding the Human Resource Board residents can contact Stephen Delamere at 781-344-0012.

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Easton Housing Authority is pleased to present its' annual report for the year 2007. The Authority's 184 state-aided elderly/disabled, 10 state-aided family and 101 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers remained tenanted for the year.

The Easton Housing Authority is an Authority of the State and is governed by a five member board of Commissioners. Four of these Commissioners are elected by the citizens of the town of Easton and one Commissioner is appointed by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Governor's appointed position remains unfilled. Any resident of the town who may be interested in filling this seat may contact the Authority for more information on Governor's appointments.

The Easton Housing Authority maintains open waiting lists for the state-aided elderly/disabled and state-aided family programs. Easton residents and applicants who work in the town of Easton receive preference on our waiting list. Currently the income limits for the elderly/disabled and family housing units are as follows:

One Person	\$40,250.00
Two People	\$46,000.00
Three People	\$51,570.00
Four People	\$57,500.00
Five People	\$62,100.00
Six People	\$66,700.00
Seven People	\$71,300.00
Eight or more	\$75,900.00

Senior citizens over the age of 60 and who fall within the published income guidelines are eligible to apply for housing at Parker Terrace and Elise Circle. Additionally applicants with a disability who are unable to locate alternative suitable housing may be eligible. Anyone interested in applying for either state-aided public housing programs are encouraged to contact our office for an application and information.

The Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program waiting list remains closed.

The Robert J. Keefe Community Center at Parker Terrace continues to be the site for Old Colony Elderly Services congregate lunch program, serving hot lunches Monday through Friday for Senior Citizens, and hosts their Meals on Wheels Program. Additionally, the Authority donates the use of both the Robert J. Keefe Community Center at Parker Terrace and the Jerry Fitzgerald Community Center at Elise Circle for the use of the Council on Aging's senior center programs, including arts and crafts, dancing and exercise, etc.

Anyone interested in applying to the Authority, or wishing to hear more about our programs can contact our office:

By Phone	508-238-4747
By FAX	508-230-9694
By Email	eastonha@aol.com
By Mail	Parker Terrace North Easton, MA 02356

The Authority always extends its gratitude to the residents, staff and residents of Easton for their continued support. It is this support that enables the Authority to operate successfully and provide its residents with safe, sanitary and decent housing.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Conant, Chairman
Dennis Sheedy, Vice-Chairman
June Brousseau, Treasurer
Michael J. Malloy, Assistant Treasurer

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION

Mission: The Easton Recreation Department provides diverse and equitable programs that reach out to the Recreational needs of the community of Easton.

Commission: The Easton Recreation department budget is \$92,000 for fiscal year 2007-08. Previously Easton Recreation experienced a considerable amount of adversity, relative to budget cuts. Despite this adversity, the Recreation Commission remains strong and dedicated to fulfill the needs of the community. This has been helped in large part by the dedication of the community, which has been sensitive to the Recreation Department's budget cuts during the past several years and has been most generous with supporting the department. Thus in anticipation of a full 2008-2009 budget, we are optimistic about achieving our goals as outlined below.

One of our 2007-2008 goals was to hire a Recreation Director. This goal was achieved during October of 2007. We are pleased to welcome Jennifer Hruniak as our new Recreation Director and already have seen a positive change for the department.

Easton businesses continue to be most charitable to the Recreation Department in times of need. The sub-committee of Recreation called "Support Easton Recreation Department" raised enough funds over a year ago to continue to open the Town Pool for the next two years without any dependency on our budget. Community support such as this makes Easton an attractive and desirable place to live. The support that we have received makes the future of the department look bright and it is towards the future that we are looking. Due to lack of athletic playing fields in our town, the Recreation commission has taken on a commitment to increase the inventory of these fields within the community. We will continue to work with the CPA commission to acquire or enhance existing property to fulfill our open space needs. CPA has been extremely supportive of Recreation and has been very amenable to work with. We have prioritized several larger open space sites to accommodate some of our athletic playing field needs in the community. These sites will be evaluated as they become available.

Below are the Recreation Department Commission members:

Jennifer Hruniak – Recreation Director

Anne Daley – Program Director

Mike McDonald – Chairman

Tana Babbitt

Robert Benton

Leonard Cidado

Kathleen DeGrandis

Charles Hammond

Elizabeth Nikiciuk

The dedication and commitment of our commission has contributed greatly to the success that the department has experienced. A large portion of credit is also owed to Anne Daley whose leadership and dedication has helped us to be successful prior to having a full recreation commission and a full-time recreation director.

We would like to thank the Board of Selectmen for their commitment to our department. We would also like to thank the CPA committee and our new town administrator, David Colton, for supporting our department in every way they could during the many changes this past year.

Programs: The programs that the Easton Recreation Department offers are:

Fall and Winter programs: After School Programs: Homework Club, Running Club, Field Hockey, Lacrosse and Chess, Family Skating, Snow Boarding, Snow tubing Trip, Ski program, Boys and Girls Chess Instruction, Co-ed Volleyball

Spring and Summer Programs: Easter Egg Hunt, Town Pool & Swimming Lessons, Tee Ball for Youngsters, Summer Slam Basketball, Men's Basketball, Co-ed Volleyball, Wrestling, Running, Tennis, Archery, Lacrosse, Multi- Sports Program, Kids Races in the Summer, Summer Concerts and Girls Volleyball

Donations and contributions: The HUGS program has been extremely instrumental in supporting the Recreation Department over the past several years. Officer Denise Papagno, the chair of the local HUGS organization, presented a donation of over \$8,000 to the Easton Recreation Department. These funds have directly supported our After School Homework Club. This program keeps vulnerable adolescents busy and productive after the school day ends and offers educational services to students. Other donations have come from various town businesses, school PACS, and the many residents of Easton.

Financial: All of the programs listed above are self-funded, and have been successful enough to bring in some small profits.

As a department we continuously review our monthly P&L statement to ensure we are accountable to the citizens of Easton. Additional finances are strongly desired to expand and grow programs as well as to provide additional resources to operate programs and projects.

2008- 2009 Goals and Objectives:

1. To work with other Recreational Organizations within the Town of Easton to coordinate Field and Gym Space for Recreational activities.
2. Continue to expand current Recreation programs and grow new programs to cover the board interests of townspeople. These programs will ideally be self-funding and bring in a profit to offset operational costs of the department.
3. Continue to form sub-committees of the Recreation department to fulfill the needs of the community.
4. Continue to acquire open space for recreational purposes and seek funding outside the town budget by working closely with CPA and other organizations.
5. Take a lead on larger projects that reap great value to the community.
6. To work closely with the Council on Aging to support recreational programs for the elderly.
7. Seek and secure more grants
8. Establish the Frothingham site acquired in 2007 to be a fully functional facility to house a majority of our programs, equipment, and service.

Best Regards,

Michael J. McDonald
Recreation Chairman

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF SELF HELP, INC.

During the program year ending September 30, 2007 Self Help, Inc., received a total funding of approximately \$19M and provided direct services to 27,938 limited income households in the area.

In the TOWN OF EASTON Self Help, Inc. provided services totaling \$370,028 to 498 households during program year 2007.

Self Help's total funding of \$19,059,457 does not tell the real value of services delivered to the area as a whole. This funding enabled us to mobilize an additional \$1,535,342 of other community resources such as, volunteers, donations of space, and private donations in the form of goods and services. Therefore, the total impact of Self Help, Inc., during the past program year was \$20,595,799.

In addition, Self Help currently employs 250 individuals. Many of these individuals are of limited income, and most reside in our service area.

We feel that October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007 was a successful program year for us because we were able to assist as many individuals and/or families as we did, regardless of the challenges of being a human service provider.

We thank the Town of Easton and its representatives to our board Ms. Doreen Lindsay and Mr. David Precopio, and all the volunteers for helping us make fiscal year 2007 a successful one.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma Wang
Human Resource Manager

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE VETERANS' SERVICES DEPARTMENT

During 2007 the Town of Easton's Veterans' Services Department assisted over 250 veterans and/or their dependents.

Forty-one veterans and/or their dependents received \$187,841 in financial assistance for household and medical expenses under Chapter 115 of Massachusetts General Laws. This assistance program is open to low income Easton veterans or their dependents who meet the income and asset guidelines that are established by the Commissioner of Veterans' Services. The veterans' benefits issued by the Town of Easton during 2007 were paid from local appropriation. The State will reimburse the Town for 75% of the veterans' benefits issued. In addition to this Benefits Program, Chapter 115 also provided an Annual Annuity of \$2,000 each to 27 disabled veterans or their dependents paid by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services. Certain 100% service-connected disabled veterans, Gold Star parents, and Gold Star spouses are eligible for this annuity program. Applications are available at this Veterans' Services Department.

The Veterans Administration estimates that veterans from the Town of Easton received over \$ 2,200,000 in federal benefits last year. Eighteen compensation claims filed by this office for Easton veterans were adjudicated last year by the Veterans Administration and those veterans received a total of \$ 267,738 in federal benefits.

The Director of Veterans' Services made sixty-four trips to the VA hospitals as well as local hospitals to insure that veterans in need of transportation were able to get the medical care they need and have earned as a result of their service to this country.

This office was involved with other town employees and citizens in continuing Operation Mail Call. The purpose of this organization is to help insure that Easton citizens serving in the Armed Forces in Afghanistan and Iraq know how grateful we are for their service.

Other services provided to the veterans of Easton include help in obtaining separation papers, service medals, property tax exemptions, and fuel assistance.

I wish to thank the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, Town Administrator, members of the American Legion Post #7, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #2547, and the residents and businesses of Easton for their continued support of our veterans.

Semper Fi

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen F. Nolan
Director of Veterans' Services

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

During 2007, the Council on Aging reached out to the 3,922 elderly residents of Easton through our monthly newsletter that was distributed to many business locations around town and was mailed, or e-mailed to individuals upon request. The Council provided approximately 27,705 units of service in transportation, nutrition, recreation, and outreach to 1,688 elderly residents.

We provided 8,130 rides for 145 elderly and disabled residents to medical appointments, grocery stores, shopping malls, local hairdressers and to the community buildings at Parker Terrace and Elise Circle for Council on Aging programs on our lift-equipped shuttle vans. We also connected with the Brockton Area Transit Dial-a-Bat service for transportation to Boston area medical appointments.

During the year, the Council offered a number of health promotion programs. Two nurses from Pedi-Care, Inc. provided foot care and a hearing instrument consultant from Mass. Audiology conducted hearing screenings and minor hearing-aid repair at monthly clinics. Southeast Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center sponsored a number of monthly Wellness Lunches followed by health related presentations. We were able to continue a twice-weekly exercise program and our weekly Tai-Chi class with funding from Stonehill College and we are truly grateful for their support of our elderly programs. Seniors participated in recreational programs including bridge, crafts, cribbage, knitting, line dancing, and quilting. Many traveled with us on motorcoach day trips. We were fortunate to have many volunteers who helped us during the year, making it possible for us to run a wide variety of programs for our elderly including meals on wheels delivery to our homebound elders and help for our seniors with filing income tax returns and answering their health insurance questions. A number of senior volunteers participated in the Senior Tax-Relief program and provided valuable help to the town while receiving a property tax credit for their hours of service.

We are thankful to the many groups and individuals who enriched the lives of our elderly residents through their generous gifts of time and support. The Recreation Commission provided a Summer Barbecue for our elderly residents including entertainment by the Double Eagle Oktoberfest Band and sponsored a Holiday Light Tour to the Lasalette Shrine in Attleboro. The Easton Lions Club held their annual cookout for our elderly residents in September. Students, family and volunteers from Personal Best Karate continued their Turkey Brigade and delivered hot turkey dinners on Thanksgiving Day to a number of our elderly residents. Children in the K.I.D.S. (Kindness to Individuals Deserving Support) program at the F.L. Olmstead and H.H. Richardson Schools provided wonderful gift boxes for our elderly who attended our Holiday Program or received meals on wheels in December and the Knights of Columbus held their annual Christmas Party for our elderly residents. We thank the Bristol County Sheriff's Dept., the Easton Police Dept. and senior participants of TRIAD who provided a number of programs, including the Yellow Alert program, which promote the safety and well being of our elderly residents.

We welcomed a new Outreach Coordinator, Beverly Beavers, who joined Marilyn Lauricella in making home visits to elders and arranged a variety of home care services for those in need by working with Old Colony Elderly Services, volunteer groups, and private homemakers. Each Outreach Coordinator works part time. Mrs. Beavers covers morning hours, while Mrs. Lauricella works in the afternoon.

We extend our appreciation to the Easton Housing Authority, the Board of Selectmen, the Finance Committee and the residents of Easton for their support of elder services and programs. We look forward to working with town officials as plans proceed to purchase Frothingham Hall for use as a multi-purpose community center and look forward to the day when we can offer programs and services for our elderly residents in this wonderful, historic building. For more information on programs and services, please contact Dolores Kent, COA director, at 508-230-0540 or by e-mail, dkent@easton.ma.us.

Respectfully submitted: Francis Spillane, Chairman
Nicolina Previti, Vice-chairman
Ethel Pomerleau, Secretary
David Cudmore, Member

Rose Friedeborn, Member
Marie Healey, Member
Carl Palm, Member
Dolores Kent, Director

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CEMETERY COMMISSION

The Cemetery Commission is responsible for ensuring that our town own cemeteries are maintained for our future generations. We try with the limited funds that are available to clean, straighten, reset or replace monuments where needed. We work with the Town Clerk in following up on the veterans buried in our Easton cemeteries.

We cleaned and reset where needed thirty-five monuments at the Dr. Edward Dean cemetery at twenty-four Highland Street. We reset a monument at the Thomas Keith Cemetery on Bay Road.

We encourage our residents to take some time and make a visit to our historic cemeteries.

We would like to thank the DPW crew for the excellent job of mowing and cleaning up the town owned cemeteries.

We would like to express our appreciation to our Town Officials, all Town Department and the citizens of Easton for their support in helping us to maintain the care of our cemeteries.

The Cemetery Commission can be reach by calling the Town Clerk 508-230-0531.

Respectfully submitted,

John Melin, Chairman
Melanie Deware
John Howard

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL

As your representatives to the Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC), we are pleased to present this report on behalf of the Council for 2007.

The Old Colony Planning Council was established in 1967 by state statute and is authorized to prepare plans for the physical, social and economic development of the fifteen-member community region. OCPC is designated as: an Economic Development District by the U.S. Department of Commerce for the coordination of regional economic development activities; an Area Agency on Aging (AAA) by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs to plan, manage and coordinate elder services in a twenty-three community service area; and, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to plan and program transportation and transit improvements for the region.

In addition to the above-designated responsibilities, the Council is concerned with a wide variety of area-wide and inter-municipal concerns as they pertain to the development of the Planning District. The Council also assists its member municipalities with technical planning, grant application preparation and current local and regional trends socioeconomic information.

During the past year, the Council completed work on the 2007 Long Range Regional Transportation Plan, which identifies transportation project needs in the OCPC region, for the next twenty-five years; the Council also completed work on the Old Colony 2007 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS); the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) 2007 Area Plan Update; the FFY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); the Plympton GIS parcel mapping; the Route 3A Corridor Study in Kingston and Plymouth; The Route 28 Corridor Study in Avon, Brockton, West Bridgewater, and Bridgewater; the Easton Circulation Study; the OCPC 2007 DataBook; the BAT - FY 2007 Ridership Analysis; BAT - Old Colony Human Service Coordination Plan; BAT - Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP); BAT - Title VI Plan; and numerous Intersection/Technical Studies. This past year, the Council also provided technical assistance to member communities on expedited permitting; conducted traffic counts at approximately 200 locations throughout the region; updated the OCPC Policy Plan; and continued participation in the New Bedford/Fall River Commuter Rail Taskforce. OCPC is also working with the Massachusetts Department of Environment Protection (DEP), the Regional Wastewater Committee including the towns of Avon, East Bridgewater, Easton, West Bridgewater and the City of Brockton on the Upper Taunton Wastewater feasibility Study. OCPC also administered the Septic Loan Program for Hanson and Kingston. The Area Agency on Aging provided approximately 101,000 vehicle miles of volunteer Transportation; 2,100 hours of legal services; and approximately 500,000 meals to the seniors.

Each member community of the Council is represented by one delegate and one alternate member. The Council members establish policy, develop the work program, and employ and oversee the activities of the professional staff. The Council meets on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM in the OCPC offices located at 70 School Street, Brockton, MA. In 2007, the Council elected Jeanmarie Kent Joyce of Easton as Council President; Robert Moran, Jr. of Brockton as Council Treasurer; and, Lee Hartmann of Plymouth as Council Secretary. Pasquale Ciaramella serves as Executive Director of the Council.

The Council gratefully acknowledges the generous support and cooperation of its member communities and the participation and involvement of the many individuals who participate as members of committees. Special thanks are extended to Joint Transportation Committee Chair Noreen O'Toole; Comprehensive Economic Development Committee Chair Mary Waldron; and, the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Committee Chair James Taylor for their dedication, commitment and leadership during the year. The Council also recognizes the work of local boards and commissions and the government agencies, public and private institutions and individuals who assisted the Council in its efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanmarie Kent Joyce, Delegate
Stephen Donahue, Alternate
Matthew Striggles, Delegate At-Large

FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2007
REPORT OF THE OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL
AREA AGENCY ON AGING

The Delegate and Alternate to the Old Colony Planning Council Area Agency on Aging (OCPC-AAA) Advisory Committee are pleased to present this report of the Area Agency on Aging activities for federal fiscal year 2007.

NARRATIVE STATEMENT:

The OCPC-AAA is responsible for planning, coordinating and funding elder services under the Older Americans Act in the 23 community region served by the program. The OCPC-AAA, in conjunction with input from the 23 community Advisory Committee, has focused its efforts on developing a network of services and programs to serve the unmet needs of elders from throughout the region. In fiscal year 2007, the OCPC-AAA provided grant funding to various service provider agencies for the following types of program and services:

- *Mental Health Services
- *Personal Care & Respite
- *Transportation
- *Services for Disabled Elders
- *Legal Services
- *Emergency Intervention Service
- *Congregate and Home Delivered Meals
- *Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program
- *Family Caregiver Support

The OCPC-AAA Advisory Committee Delegates and Alternates play a key role in the development and support of elder services and programs in the region. Committee members from each of the 23 communities assist the AAA in assessing elder needs in the region, recommending funding priorities, and recommending sub-grantee funding awards to the Planning Council. The support and cooperation of the Delegates and Alternates and their respective communities is acknowledged with gratitude by the Old Colony Planning Council Area Agency on Aging. The OCPC-AAA also wishes to extend sincere thanks to Committee Chairwoman Mary Willis of Pembroke and Vice-Chairwoman Jean-Marie Smith of Hanson for their leadership during the past fiscal year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dolores Kent, Delegate
Marie Healey, Alternate

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

The September 1998 Special Town Meeting voted to establish the Municipal Building Committee. The powers and duties of this committee are to serve as a building committee for all school and government building projects valued at \$50,000 or more, including changes to existing buildings and all new buildings; to conduct inspections of all school and government buildings and to assist the DPW Director with the preparation of annual and 5-year capital improvement and maintenance plans.

2007 was a busy and productive year for the Municipal Building Committee. Attorney Robert E. Langway, Jr. continued in his role as chairman as did Ralph Vatalaro as Vice Chairman. The committee maintained a regular meeting schedule on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Meetings were held at 5:30 p.m. in the OAHS Administration Conference Room. The Committee is grateful for and has benefited greatly from the services of a permanent secretary, Karen Gilbride-Raynard. Throughout the year, the Committee devoted most of its time to the ongoing construction/renovation projects at the OAHS and EMS. The year saw the substantial completion of both the OA High School Project and the Easton Middle School Project with the expectation that both schools will be fully occupied and completed in early Spring 2008.

Throughout the year, in connection with these major construction projects, the Committee met and conferred with scores of town officials, various boards and committees and individual citizens. Frequent communication with the newly formed Massachusetts School Building Assistance Bureau has favored the construction projects and benefited the town.

During 2007, the Committee continued to work closely with the School Superintendent and DPW Director on an ongoing basis to develop capital improvement and maintenance plans for all town buildings.

In 2008, the Committee will continue to fulfill its mission to oversee the completion of the school construction projects and looks forward to participating in other initiatives to improve school and other town buildings. Regular meetings will continue to be held on the second Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in the OAHS Administration Conference Room and agendas will be posted at Town Hall. Visitors are welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Langway, Jr., Chairman
Marc Brockman
Ken Carlson
Wally Fulcher
Henry Narsasian
Jane Pike-Benton
Ralph Vatalaro, Vice Chairman

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMES FREE LIBRARY

Circulation Statistics:	Main	Branch	Total
2007	68,386	40,948	109,334
2006	63,075	40,035	103,110

This has been an exciting year for the Ames Free Library. Progress was made on beginning renovations for the building at 53 Main Street. In order to renovate the building the library had to find a temporary location. Frothingham Hall became available for lease and the library leased that building in August. Much work had to be done on the property to make it habitable for a library. Asbestos was removed, walls were painted, kitchen and bathroom floors were retiled, most floors were carpeted, a new burner installed, roof repaired, electrical wiring updated, and lighting improvements so that by September the building was ready for occupancy.

The community was involved with moving the books through a "book brigade." Over two hundred and fifty volunteers formed a line from 53 Main Street to the new location at 15 Barrows Street and passed books for three hours. Seven thousand books were moved in the pouring rain. North Easton Savings Bank provided plastic bags to keep the books dry and Roche Bros. provided water and snacks for the volunteers. A sincere "thank you" to all those who helped. It was truly a community effort.

In the spring the library subscribed to "tutor.com", a homework help product that students can access from home. With his or her library card, a student can log onto this website and reach a real tutor for whatever subject they need help. The tutors are qualified, have been screened, and will spend a half hour at a time with the student. The service is available every day from four to nine for grades four through twelve. It is felt this service enhances the library's regular service during this time that we are in temporary quarters and is provided at no cost to the student.

There were personnel changes on the staff and on the Library Board of Directors. Elizabeth Keenan, Reference Librarian for ten years, retired. Karen Gabbert Armand left the Children's Librarian position and became a half-time Reference Librarian. Catherine Coyne was hired as the Children's Librarian. Donna Costa, Library Technician, left to pursue her MLS full-time and Lorraine Rubinacci became a full-time Library Technician. Kathleen Korona was hired as a part-time Library Technician.

"Booklovers of Easton" continues on Cable TV Channel 9 twice a week and the library publishes its newsletter, All the News, four times a year. It is mailed to every household in Easton. The library web site, www.amesfreelibrary.org, continues to be available.

With Cathy Coyne as the Children's Librarian, programs have been expanded. A very popular children's pajama story hour takes place on the first Monday of the month at the Main Library. Regular story hours take place on Tuesdays, Thursdays or Fridays at the Main Library and on Fridays at the Branch. In addition, special programs with outside performers take place monthly. Call 238-2000 for dates and times. The Stonehill Enrichment Fund makes these special programs possible. It is truly appreciated by the Library and the community.

The Library made some major real estate purchases because of being unable to put an addition onto 53 Main Street. A cottage at 56 Main Street was purchased for storage space and office space. This occurred on June 1st. On October 30th the Library purchased Queset House, which provides 9,000 square feet of program and service space immediately adjacent to the Main Library.

It was a very exciting year with many more exciting events to occur in the coming months as renovations begin on 53 Main Street.

Working with the Board has been productive as well as a pleasure. Kathleen Boyle, a long time member of the Library Board of Directors, retired. Mrs. Boyle served for fifteen years and helped promote the modernization of the library as well as acting as liaison with the Friends of the Library. Marion Wingfield was appointed to replace her. Alice McCarthy left the Board after five years of service. Mrs. McCarthy worked on personnel issues and provided much community insight. Janice Lyttle was appointed to fill that vacancy. Hazel Varella was reappointed for another three-year term. Kevin Paicos is serving in the Army and has been replaced during his absence by James Fowler.

All Board members have given willingly of their time and expertise. It is truly appreciated by all who are connected to the library.

Thank you also to the Town Administrator, Board of Selectmen and Town departments for all the assistance they gave to the Ames Free Library in this pivotal year in its' history.

Respectfully submitted,

Annalee Bundy

Executive Director

Members of the Board of Directors:

Donna Richman, President

Gerard Marsan, Vice President

Hazel Varella, Secretary

William M. Ames

Kathleen Boyle (January – June)

Marcia Connors

Janice Lyttle (July – December)

Alice McCarthy (January – June)

Stephen Merlin

Kevin Paicos (January – July) (on Army leave of absence)

Marion Wingfield

Joseph Murphy, Ex Officio, Treasurer

James Fowler, Building & Endowment Director

Karen Hays, Building & Endowment Director

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMES TRUST FUND

Following is a summary of the Ames Trust Funds held for the benefit of the schools and highways of the Town of Easton as of December 31, 2007, including estimates of the income available to be distributed to the Town during 2008. The total amount distributed by all three funds for 2007 was more than the total amount distributed in 2006. Dividend income from common stocks held in the portfolios accounted for about three-fourths of the total income earned, with the balance coming from interest income earned by fixed income securities.

The economic outlook for 2008 is complicated. 2008 is a Presidential election year which always causes uncertainty in capital markets. Interest rates have been managed to a comparatively low level by the Federal Reserve Board. Economic forecasts vary greatly but many economists are calling for a recession, lower corporate earnings and dividends, and a rise in inflation and interest rates. The Trustees will continue to work closely with investment advisors to assure that portfolio quality remains high and that income available for distribution is as high as prudent investment management allows.

	Book Value	12/31/07 Market Value	2007 Income Paid to Town	2008 Estimate Income to Town
Highways Fund	\$5,079,848.00	\$7,081,803.00	\$169,860.80	\$175,000.00
Highways Perm. Fund	\$235,946.37	\$300,118.70	\$1,445.00	\$3,000.00
Schools Fund	\$4,378,781.99	\$6,129,271.45	\$150,046.72	\$160,000.00

Very truly yours,

James S. Thomas, Trustee

**2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE OAKES AMES MEMORIAL HALL ASSOCIATION, INC.**
rental information 508-238-9995

Income

Donors	7,500.00
Rental Income	10,370.00
Investment account*	
Miscellaneous	<u>900.00</u>
Total income.....	\$ 18,770.00

Operating Expenses

Salaries/ Fees:	Rental agent	3,000.00
	Custodian	<u>910.00</u>
		\$3,910.00

Utilities:	Heating Oil	4,907.39
	Nationalgrid	1,587.42
	Bay State Gas	663.84
	Town of Easton- Water	346.98
	Allied Waste	607.88
	Verizon	<u>396.00</u>
		\$ 8,509.51

Fire Safety:	Town of Easton - fees	313.00
	Sprinkler inspection	2,000.00
	Inspect fire extinguishers	<u>56.00</u>
		\$2,369.00

Insurance:	Liability and Worker's Comp.	\$803.00
------------	------------------------------	----------

Plumbing:	Handicapped bath, new toilet	613.50
	Handicapped, new waste line	1,300.00
	Men's bath, install toilet	<u>150.00</u>
		\$2,063.50

Miscellaneous:	Clean chairs, rugs, misc. hardware, cleaning supplies, fees	\$1,400.00
	Total operating expenses.....	\$ <u>19,055.01</u>
	Net operating profit (loss)	(285.01)

Capital Projects

- 1) 1st and 2nd floor hallways and stairs: remove heating ductwork, install carpets, paint walls, ceilings, and moldings, strip and refinish woodwork and floors. Partition and paint Hall "C", refinish floor in Hall "B" 19,390.00
- 2) Demolish two bathrooms, restore original first floor stage, add new first floor bathroom, renovate three bathrooms.....49,957.00
| | Total projects..... | \$ 69,347.00 |

*Notes : The first capital project was funded from the Hall's investment account and the second project was funded from a donation. For purposes of clarity the extraordinary project costs have been segregated from operating expenses.

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick L. Ames, President

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BRISTOL COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL

On June 30, 2007 the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project completed forty-eight years of service to the cities and towns of Bristol County. The mosquito control project works year-round in its efforts to reduce mosquito breeding sites and adult mosquito populations. The Project uses several different measures of control in its never-ending fight against mosquitoes.

Spring and Summer Larviciding - To reduce the emergence of adult mosquitoes in areas where mosquito larvae are present.

Catch Basin Treatment - To stop mosquito emergence from rain-filled catch basins and storm drains.

Mosquito Surveillance Program - To monitor mosquito populations as to their type and number - a program necessary in encephalitis surveillance. Light trapping of mosquitoes is also useful to determine what areas have nuisance populations of mosquitoes.

Water Management - A year round endeavor to clean and maintain mosquito drainage ditches in areas to reduce standing water conducive to mosquito larvae.

Public Outreach - Providing important information to the residents of the county with respect to personal protection against mosquito bites, mosquito breeding prevention on one's property and mosquito data.

It is the policy of the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project to use pesticides that are environmentally sensitive so that they do not negatively impact people or the environment. We use as many of the biological insecticides as are practical with the environmental conditions present in the New England area.

All of our spray equipment is calibrated periodically in order to insure that dosage rates remain at legal levels but are adequate to reduce mosquito populations. The operators of our spray equipment are state licensed pesticide applicators that are required to attend classes on pesticide safety on a yearly basis.

During the time period January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2007 the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project:

- Sprayed over 15,189.8 acres
- Treated 74.2 acres in 120 locations with BTI for mosquito larvae
- Received 992 requests for spraying
- Cleared and reclaimed 1,700 feet of brush
- Treated 749 catch basins

The Bristol County Mosquito Control Project in a cooperative effort with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health – State Laboratory Institute has been trapping mosquitoes throughout Bristol County and sending the collections to the State Virus Lab.

I would like to thank the town officials and the people of Easton for their continued support and cooperation and look forward to serving them in the coming year. Should anyone have a question as to what might be done to relieve a mosquito problem in their area, whether it is water management work, treatment of a breeding site, or just having an area checked, please feel free to call our office.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne N. Andrews, Superintendent
December 31, 2007

Bristol County Mosquito Control Commissioners:

Arthur F. Tobin, Chairman
Gregory D. Dorrance
Christine A. Fagan
Joseph Barile

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE RECLAMATION AND MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD

BRISTOL COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT
140 NORTH WALKER STREET
TAUNTON, MA 02780

Tel: (508) 823-5253 * Fax: (508) 828-1868

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON CULTURAL COUNCIL

The purpose of the Easton Cultural Council (ECC) is to award grants, based on an allocation received annually from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, with the goal of supporting public programs that promote education, diversity, excellence in and access to the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences. Its mission is to directly affect the residents of Easton, to achieve the greatest community benefit, and to cultivate the arts through participation and appreciation. The ECC endeavors to make cultural opportunities accessible to all segments of the population, including but not limited to, all racial and ethnic groups, individuals with disabilities, veterans and women. We are pleased to say that we were able to fund several programs that will greatly enrich the lives of Easton townspeople of all ages and backgrounds.

This past granting cycle we had nine active members: Co-Chairs Katherine Minsky and Heidi Harlfinger; Wanda Azevedo; Nancy Arns; Leo Landry; Marion Wingfield; Mary Goulart; Michael Mahany; and Alexander Maller.

During October of 2007, the Council received 27 applications, requesting funding totaling \$21,081. After a series of meetings and deliberations, including interviews with several of the applicants, we voted in October, 2007 to approve 21 of those applications, granting a total of \$7015, for programs or performances in 2008/09.

The Easton Cultural Council welcomes new members. If interested in becoming a member of the Council, please contact Katherine Minsky for information at 508-230-0512 or email: kminsky@easton.ma.us.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Minsky and Heidi Harlfinger, Co-Chairs

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SERVICES GROUP

The Southeastern Regional Services Group (SERSG) was initiated in 1993 with a mission "to serve as a catalyst and implementer for member communities that desire to act jointly to solve governmental problems or to deliver services to their citizens more effectively or efficiently."

The eighteen member communities of SERSG benefit from shared administrative services provided by a regional administrator. Lara Thomas has served as regional administrator of SERSG since 2004. SERSG's work is supported by dues from the member communities, and dues have remained at the same level since 2003.

Annual procurements designed to save municipalities time and money are a major part of SERSG's services. Cooperative procurements for Paper, Office Supplies and DPW Supplies and Water and Sewer Treatment Chemicals were held in the spring of 2007 and for DPW Services in the fall of 2007.

Easton including the Easton Public Schools was able to realize savings of more than \$250,000 off list prices for office supplies for Fiscal Year 2007 through the SERSG Office Supplies Contract.

Additionally, the town pays just \$50.70 for in-place bituminous concrete (paving services) while the State contract price is \$50-52 per ton for just the asphalt, without the service. For sand, Easton pays \$12.50 per ton while the state contract price is between \$16.45 and \$21.19 per ton. Based on estimated quantities for hot mix and sand alone, Easton is saving more than \$13,000 per year through SERSG DPW Contracts.

This year Ms. Thomas was invited to present before a meeting of the Commonwealth's Municipal Cabinet in Hyannis in October. Lieutenant Governor Tim Murray, Division of Local Services Director Bob Nunes and other cabinet members from key agencies serving the needs of municipal government were interested in SERSG's work, particularly as they initiate conversations about possible regionalization efforts.

Construction on the Aquaria Pipeline Project began in 2007, and Ms. Thomas' role on the project became one of overseeing the work of the Community Relations Consultant and the Construction Supervisor hired by the Pipeline Committee. Significant work was completed in Taunton, West Bridgewater and Easton, and construction should be complete in spring of 2008.

Finally, monthly meetings of the Board of Directors and the Highway Superintendents continued to provide valuable opportunities for representatives from member communities to share concerns and receive ideas and feedback about a wide variety of issues affecting municipalities.

ANNUAL REPORT 2007

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

508-230-0530

Fax 508-230-0539

Website: www.easton.ma.us

Town Clerk Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC

Assistant Town Clerk Marie A. Graca

Principal Clerk Theresa Ming-Barrows

E-Mail: jlinehan@easton.ma.us

In July Maureen Call transferred to an opening in the Tax Collector's office. After reviewing over 200 applications, Theresa Ming-Barrows was hired for the Principal Clerk's position. Please stop by the office to meet her.

There were three Town Meetings in 2007 – the Special Town Meeting on February 8, 2007; the Annual Town Meeting on May 21 and a Special Town Meeting on November 5, 2007. Under the direction of new Town Administrator David A. Colton, the ATM was held in record time – 62 Articles in 2 hours and 15 minutes. There was one election conducted this calendar year – the Annual Town Election on April 24, 2007. Please refer to the individual reports for detailed information on these meetings and election.

WHAT'S NEW: One long-anticipated project was finally accomplished. The oldest book of births, deaths and marriages from approximately 1725 to 1843 is arranged by family which made looking up genealogy difficult. The Town Clerk indexed each individual name, and the index is now available on our website. Genealogists and anyone else interested are finally able to search online by individual names. There are over 5,200 records in this one book alone. Please note that the names were indexed exactly as recorded. Sometimes in one family the last name is spelled two or three various ways – so look up all other names close to the name known. Happy hunting!

During calendar 2007 we assisted 1,037 travelers with Passport Services, bringing in \$31,110 of revenue for the Town. This was an increase of 282 travelers and \$8,460 in revenue over calendar 2006. Please refer to Town Clerks Fees reports for other monetary information.

"The Town Clerk"

(Excerpted from The Public Recorder December 2007, and adopted from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks)

The Town Clerk/Municipal Clerk is the oldest public servant in local government. The profession traces back to Biblical times.

The Office of Town Clerk over the years has become the hub of government, the direct link between the inhabitants of their community and their government. The clerk is the historian of the community for the entire recorded history of the town and its people are in his or her care.

The eminent political scientist, Professor William Bennett Munro, writing in one of the first textbooks on municipal administration (1934) stated:

"No other office in municipal service has so many contacts. It serves the mayor, the city council (*Board of Selectmen in Easton*), the city manager (where there is one), and all administrative departments without exception. All of them call upon it, almost daily, for some service or information. Its work is not spectacular, but it demands versatility, alertness, accuracy and no end of patience. The public does not realize how many loose ends of city administration this office pulls together."

EASTON TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE MISSION STATEMENT

The Office of the Town Clerk serves as the central information center of the Town by collecting, maintaining and disseminating public records; being a direct link between the residents of Easton and their local government. The office strives to serve the public and all Town Departments by being versatile, alert, accurate and patient. The goal of the Office of the Town Clerk is to preserve, protect and uphold all Town records in the custody of the Town Clerk, including Vital Records, and to conduct fair and impartial Elections for Registered Voters, all in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, rendering equal service to all in order to merit public confidence.

* * * * *

Your Town Clerk serves you as...

CHIEF ELECTION OFFICIAL

- Oversees polling places, election officers, and the general conduct of all elections.
- Directs preparation of ballots, polling places, voting equipment, voting lists, administers campaign finance laws, certifies nomination papers and initiative petitions and serves on the local Board of Registrars.
- Supervises voter registration and absentee balloting, and prepares, records and reports official election results to the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth.
- Conducts the annual town census, prepares the street list of residents and school list, and furnishes the jury list to the Office of the Jury Commissioner.

RECORDING OFFICER

- Records and certifies all official actions of the Town, including town meeting legislation and appropriations, Planning and Zoning Board and Board of Appeals Decisions, signs all notes for borrowing, and keeps the Town Seal.
- Records state tax liens.

REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

- Registers all vital events occurring within the community and those events occurring elsewhere to local residents.
- Records and preserves original birth, marriage, and death records providing the basis for the Commonwealth's central vital registration system.

PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICER

- Administers the oath of office to all elected and appointed members of local committees and boards and ensures that all elected and appointed officials are informed of the State's Open Meeting and Conflict of Interest Laws. Posts meetings of all government bodies.
- Provides access to public records in compliance with State Public Records Law and corresponding regulations.
- Provides certified copies of vital records and conducts or assists with genealogical research for members of the public, and is responsible for maintenance, disposition and preservation of municipal archival records and materials.
- Maintains records of adopted municipal codes, local bylaws, oaths of office, resignations and appointments, petitions, publications, budgets, meeting minutes, and financial statements.
- Submits bylaws and zoning ordinances to Attorney General for approval.

LICENSING OFFICER

- Issues state licenses and permits: including marriage licenses, hunting, fishing and trapping licenses, and permits for raffles and bazaars. Issues county or local licenses, permits, and certificates as mandated by statute or bylaw, which may include business certificates, animal licenses, and fuel storage permits.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

- Responds to inquires from the general public, frequently serving as facilitator with departments, providing knowledge and assistance in a fair and impartial manner to all.
- Often considered the core of local government, the Town Clerk's Office serves as the central information point for local residents and citizens at large.

PASSPORT ACCEPTANCE AGENT

- Assists travelers with executing passport applications.
- Provide Passport Photos service

If we can be of assistance to you in any way, please contact us in person, by phone, or by e-mail.

2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Various meetings of the Board of Registrars were held for registration of voters for Town Meetings and all elections.

PCT	AMERICAN INDEPENDENT	DEMOCRAT	GREEN PARTY	USA	GREEN- RAINBOW	INTER- 3RD PARTY	LIBERTARIAN	REFORM	REPUBLICAN	WORKING FAMILIES	UNENROLLED	TOTAL
At the close of Registration January 29, 2007 for the Special Town Meeting on February 8, 2007												
1	0	484	0	1	1	1	7	1	339	0	862	1695
2	0	685	0	3	2	2	8	0	477	0	1415	2590
3	0	654	0	2	1	1	11	0	405	0	1333	2406
4	0	631	0	3	5	5	15	0	436	0	1293	2383
5	0	760	0	4	3	6	3	1	415	0	1455	2644
6	1	649	0	3	5	12	12	0	443	0	1331	2444
Total	1	3863	0	16	17	59	59	2	2515	0	7689	14162
At the close of Registration April 4, 2007 for Annual Town Election on April 24, 2007												
1	0	479	0	1	1	1	8	1	336	0	866	1692
2	0	682	0	3	2	2	7	0	473	0	1423	2590
3	0	676	0	2	1	1	11	0	400	0	1329	2419
4	0	635	0	3	4	4	15	0	439	0	1310	2406
5	0	765	0	4	3	7	7	1	404	0	1463	2647
6	1	645	0	3	5	12	12	0	440	0	1324	2430
Total	1	3882	0	16	16	60	60	2	2492	0	7715	14184
At the close of Registration May 1, 2007 for Annual Town Meeting on May 21, 2007												
1	0	468	0	2	1	1	7	1	329	0	845	1653
2	0	667	0	3	2	2	7	0	466	1	1410	2556
3	0	666	0	2	1	9	9	0	385	0	1310	2373
4	0	621	0	2	4	4	14	0	429	0	1284	2354
5	0	754	0	5	4	8	8	1	390	0	1425	2587
6	1	622	0	2	5	11	11	0	437	0	1294	2372
Total	1	3798	0	16	17	56	56	2	2436	1	7568	13895
At the close of Registration October 26, 2007 for Special Town Meeting on November 5, 2007												
1	0	479	0	2	1	1	7	1	335	0	868	1693
2	0	685	0	3	2	2	7	0	474	2	1452	2625
3	0	698	0	2	1	1	9	0	398	0	1357	2465
4	0	635	0	2	4	4	14	0	439	0	1321	2415
5	0	775	0	5	4	8	8	1	396	1	1465	2655
6	1	633	0	3	5	11	11	0	445	1	1323	2422
Total	1	3905	0	17	17	56	56	2	2487	4	7786	14275

Respectfully submitted,
Kent M. Keith, Chairman
Jean H. Cote
Jean M. Kent
Janet Andrus Linehan, Clerk
BOARD OF REGISTRARS

**2007 VITAL STATISTICS RECORDED IN EASTON
RECEIVED THRU JANUARY 9, 2008**

BIRTHS

Males	98
Females	88
	<u>186</u>

Single Births	178
Sets of Twins	6
Triplets	2
	<u>186</u>

MARRIAGES

Marriages in Easton	40
Marriages Out of Easton	58
	<u>98</u>

RESIDENCE OF PARTY A & PARTY B

Both Residents of Easton	64
One Easton, One Other MA Town	11
One Easton, One Out of State	8
Both Out of State	6
Both Out of Town	9
One Out of Town, One Out of State	0
	<u>98</u>

DEATHS

Residents who died in Easton	77
Residents who died out of Easton	91
Non-Residents who died in Easton	35
Total	<u>203</u>

TYPE OF FACILITY:

Hospital	61
Nursing Home	67
Residence	30
Other	10
Total	<u>168</u>

BY AGE & GENDER

Ages	Female	Male	Total
0-19			1
20-47	5		6
50-59	4		9
60-69	8		14
70-79			
80-89	20		20
90-99	24		27
100+(104)	21		9
Total	82	86	168

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC
Town Clerk

HUNTING & FISHING LICENSES ISSUED JANUARY 2007 TO DECEMBER 2007

	<u>Licenses Class Issued</u>	<u># Issued</u>	<u>Fees</u>	<u>Total</u>
F1	RESIDENT FISHING	102	\$ 22.50	\$ 2,295.00
F2	RESIDENT FISHING MINOR	42	\$ 6.50	\$ 273.00
F3	FISHING LICENSE 65-69	13	\$ 10.75	\$ 139.75
F4	FISHING RESIDENT AGE 70		free	
F6	NON-RESIDENT FISHING	0	\$ 37.50	\$ -
F7	NON -RESIDENT (3DAY)	0	\$ 23.50	\$ -
	TOTAL FISHING LICENSES	157	\$ 100.75	\$ 2,707.75
H1	RESIDENT CITIZEN HUNTING	12	\$ 22.50	\$ 270.00
H2	RESIDENT HUNTING (AGE 65-69)	0	\$ 16.25	\$ -
H8	RESIDENT MINOR HUNTING(AGE 15-17)	1	\$ 11.50	\$ 11.50
S1	RESIDENT SPORTING	23	\$ 45.00	\$ 1,035.00
S2	RESIDENT SPORTING(AGE 65-69)	3	\$ 25.00	\$ 75.00
S3	RESIDENT SPORTING (AGE 70 OR OVER)		FREE	
DS	DUPLICATE SPORTING	1	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50
	TOTAL SPORTING LICENSES	40	\$ 122.75	\$ 1,394.00
M1	ARCHERY STAMP	21	\$ 5.10	\$ 107.10
M2	WATERFOWL STAMP	12	\$ 5.00	\$ 60.00
M3	PRIMITIVE FIREARMS STAMP	19	\$ 5.10	\$ 96.90
W1	WILD CONSER. STAMP (RESIDENT)	161	\$ 5.00	\$ 805.00
	TOTAL STAMPS ISSUED	172	\$ 20.20	\$ 866.70
	Total Licenses Issued	197	\$ 223.50	\$ 4,101.75
	Total Licenses Issued & Stamps Issued	369	\$ 243.70	\$ 4,968.45
	Sporting License Fees	161	\$ 1.00	\$ 161.00
	Sporting License Fees	161	\$ 0.50	\$ 80.50
	Stamp Fees	12	\$ 0.25	\$ 3.00
	Stamp Fees	42	\$ 0.10	\$ 4.20
	Total Fees	376		\$ 248.70
	License Fees Deducted	161	\$ 0.50	\$ 80.50
	Waterfowl Stamp Fees Deducted	228	\$ 0.25	\$ 57.00
	Archery Stamp Fees Deducted	105	\$ 0.10	\$ 10.50
	Primitive Fire Arms Fees	95	\$ 0.10	\$ 9.50
	Total Fees Deducted License & Stamps	589		\$ 157.50
	Total PAID TO Fisheries & Wildlife			\$ 4,810.95

Respectfully submitted
Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC
Town Clerk

DOG LICENSES ISSUED JANUARY 2006 TO JUNE 2007

ISSUED JANUARY 1, 2008 TO JULY 2007 INCLUSIVE

2006 (JAN TO APRIL)				2006 (MAY-JUNE 2007)				2006 (JULY 2007)			
Licence	Fee	Total	Licence	Licence	Fee	Total	Licence	Licence	Fee	Total	Total
22 Neutered	\$10.00	\$220.00	8 Neutered		\$10.00	\$80.00	Neutered		\$10.00	\$0.00	
1 Males	\$15.00	\$15.00	0 Males		\$15.00	\$0.00	Males		\$15.00	\$0.00	
17 Spayed Females	\$10.00	\$170.00	1 Spayed Females		\$10.00	\$10.00	Spayed Females		\$10.00	\$0.00	
1 Females	\$15.00	\$15.00	0 Females		\$15.00	\$0.00	Females		\$15.00	\$0.00	
0 Kennel License	\$25.00	\$0.00	0 Kennel License		\$25.00	\$0.00	Kennel License		\$25.00	\$0.00	
2 Kennel License	\$50.00	\$100.00	0 Kennel License		\$50.00	\$0.00	Kennel License		\$50.00	\$0.00	
2 Transfer Licenses	\$3.00	\$0.00	0 Transfer Licenses		\$3.00	\$0.00	Transfer Licenses		\$3.00	\$0.00	
Total Licenses		\$520.00	Total Licenses			\$90.00	Total Licenses			\$0.00	
29 Late Fees & violations	\$ 25.00	\$725.00	8 Late Fees & violations		\$ 25.00	\$200.00	Late Fees & violations		\$ 25.00	\$0.00	
8 Pick-up Impound	\$ 30.00	\$240.00	3 Pick-up Impound		\$ 30.00	\$90.00	Pick-up Impound		\$ 30.00	\$0.00	
0 Misc Dogs & Dup tags.		\$40.00	3 Misc Dogs & Dup tags.			\$25.00	Misc Dogs & Dup tags.			\$10.00	
Collected		\$1,525.00	Collected			\$405.00	Collected			\$10.00	
2007 (JAN TO APRIL)				2007 (MAY-JUNE 2006)				2007 (July)			
579 Neutered Males	\$ 10.00	\$5,790.00	337 Neutered Males		\$ 10.00	\$3,370.00	45 Neutered Males		\$ 10.00	\$450.00	
81 Males	\$ 15.00	\$1,215.00	44 Males		\$ 15.00	\$660.00	5 Males		\$ 15.00	\$75.00	
553 Spayed Females	\$ 10.00	\$5,530.00	369 Spayed Females		\$ 10.00	\$3,690.00	38 Spayed Females		\$ 10.00	\$380.00	
35 Females	\$ 15.00	\$525.00	39 Females		\$ 15.00	\$585.00	11 Females		\$ 15.00	\$165.00	
1 Kennel	\$ 25.00	\$25.00	Kennel		\$ 25.00	\$0.00	Kennel		\$ 25.00	\$0.00	
1 Kennel	\$ 50.00	\$50.00	1 Kennel		\$ 50.00	\$50.00	Kennel		\$ 50.00	\$0.00	
Transfer Licenses	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	Transfer Licenses		\$ 3.00	\$0.00	Transfer Licenses		\$ 3.00	\$0.00	
Total Licenses		\$13,135.00	Total Licenses			\$8,355.00	Total Licenses			\$1,070.00	
Late Fees & Violations	\$25.00	\$0.00	5 Late Fees & Violations		\$25.00	\$125.00	38 Late Fees & Violations		\$25.00	\$950.00	
Pick-up Impound	\$ 30.00	\$240.00	3 Pick-up Impound		\$ 30.00	\$90.00	1 Pick-up Impound		\$ 30.00	\$30.00	
Misc Dogs & Dup tags.			1 Misc Dogs & Dup tags.			\$3.00	Misc Dogs & Dup tags.				
Collected		\$13,375.00	Collected			\$8,573.00	Collected			\$2,050.00	
Total Licenses Collected		\$13,655.00	Total Licenses Collected			\$8,445.00	Total Licenses Collected			\$1,070.00	
Total Late Fees & Vio.	\$ 25.00	\$725.00	Total Late Fees		\$ 25.00	\$200.00	38 Total Late Fees & Vio.		\$ 25.00	\$950.00	
Total Funds Collected		\$14,380.00	Total Funds Collected			\$8,645.00	Total Funds Collected			\$2,020.00	
Total Paid to Treasurer		\$14,900.00	Total Paid to Treasurer			\$8,978.00	Total Paid to Treasurer			\$2,060.00	

Respectfully submitted

Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/MMC
Town Clerk

Town Clerks fees issued January 2007 to December 2007					
	Fees				
Birth	\$ 10.00	705	\$	7,050.00	
Deaths	\$ 10.00	543	\$	5,430.00	
Marriage	\$ 10.00	386	\$	3,860.00	
Birth	\$8.00	6	\$	48.00	
Deaths	\$8.00	2	\$	16.00	
Marriage	\$8.00	3	\$	24.00	
Death Certificate Correction	\$20.00	1	\$	20.00	
Vitals Search			\$	49.85	
Doctor Registration	\$ 25.00	6	\$	150.00	
Marriage Intentions	\$ 25.00	103	\$	2,575.00	
Voter ID	\$ 8.00	2	\$	16.00	
Business Certificate	\$ 25.00	231	\$	5,775.00	
Business Cert/Change	\$ 15.00	3	\$	45.00	
Business Disc	\$ 20.00	24	\$	480.00	
Business Certificate Certified Copy	\$ 10.00	9	\$	90.00	
Out of Business			\$	20.00	
History of Easton	\$ 10.00	1	\$	10.00	
Storage Permits (various)			\$	4,409.00	
Street Listings	\$ 10.00	89	\$	890.00	
Computer Copies	\$ 0.50	362	\$	181.00	
Copies, Inc.	\$ 0.20	245	\$	49.00	
Copy Disks	\$ 25.00	7	\$	175.00	
Raffle Permit	\$ 15.00		\$	45.00	
Declaration Homestead	\$ 15.00	1	\$	15.00	
Fish Holders	\$ 0.25	27	\$	6.75	
Pole Location	\$ 50.00		\$	100.00	
Passport	\$ 30.00	1037	\$	31,110.00	
Passport Pictures	\$ 10.00	489	\$	4,890.00	
Postage			\$	189.80	
ZBA	\$ 1.00	1	\$	1.00	
Total Town Clerk Fees			\$	67,720.40	
Sporting Lic. Fees	\$ 1.00	161	\$	161.00	
Sporting fees	\$ 0.50	161	\$	80.50	
Spoting fees	\$ 0.10	41	\$	4.10	
Sporting fees	\$ 0.25	12	\$	3.00	
Total All Fees			\$	67,969.00	
Respectfully submitted,					
Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC					
Town Clerk					

**TOWN OF EASTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WARRANT FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

FEBRUARY 8, 2007

BRISTOL, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton in the County of Bristol:
GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Easton qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet in the gymnasium of the Olmsted/Richardson School in said Easton on Thursday, the 8th day of February, next, at 7:00 P.M., then and there to act upon the following articles:

*Special Town Meeting
Thursday, February 8, 2007
Olmsted/Richardson School Gymnasium*

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator Richard C. Dailey at 7:05 p.m. with quorum present.

Voters approved the admittance of following list of non-registered voters:

DEPARTMENT HEADS: (Per Charter Section 2-4 Shall Attend Town Meeting): David A. Colton, Town Administrator; Janet Andrus Linehan, Town Clerk; Anne Carney, Assistant Assessor; Wendy V. Nightingale, Town Accountant; Teresa DeSilva, Treasurer/Collector; William Simmons, School Superintendent; Wade Saucier, Health Director; Marc Rousseau, Planning Director; Michael Deltano, Information Systems Manager; D. Mark Trivett, Building Inspector; John J. Marsh, Water Superintendent; Robert G. Dunn, Conservation Director; Maurice Goulet, DPW Operations Manager.

OTHER TOWN EMPLOYEES: Michael Green, Ed. D., Assistant to Superintendent; Marilyn Gordon, School Business Manager; Annalee Bundy, Library Director; Madeline Holt, Asst. Library Director
Eric Davis, Data Processing.

OTHERS: Ellen Callahan Doucette, Brackett & Lucas, Town Counsel; Luis G. Lopes, Jerome Burke, Patrick Meagher, Southeastern Regional School District

MEDIA: Enterprise: Vicki Downing, Ryan McLane; Easton Journal: Jessica Hackett, Bill Gouveia; Media One: Robyn Souza, Wayne Hadley.

REPRESENTATIVES: Congressman Stephen Lynch; State Senators Robert Creedon and Brian Joyce; State Representatives Christine Canavan, Geraldine Creedon and David Flynn.

REQUESTING ADMITTANCE FOR 2/8/07: Andrew Slipp, Steelworkers Union Rep, Jim Nocella, Waste Management.

UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Town Administrator David A. Colton was given a special welcome to the Town of Easton.

ARTICLE 1. AUTHORIZE SELECTMEN TO SELL LAND

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, §3, to sell for fair market value, adjoining parcels of land identified on the Assessors Map as Map R15, Lots 16 and 99, said lots containing 2.2 +/- acres on Harmony Way; the transfer of the parcel to be done pursuant to the requirements of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30B; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all contracts needed to facilitate the sale of the parcels; or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Corona moved that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, §3, to sell for fair market value, adjoining parcels of land identified on the Assessors Map as Map R15, Lots 16 and 99, said lots containing 2.2 +/- acres on Harmony Way; the transfer of the parcel to be done pursuant to the requirements of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30B; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all contracts needed to facilitate the sale of the parcels; or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: These parcels of land are located in the midst of the residential homes in the Tanglewood subdivision off of Foundry Street. Combined, they have significant value and the Selectmen are seeking your authorization to sell them. In accordance with state law, the proceeds from the sale of real estate can only be used for purposes for which borrowing is allowed. It is our intent to utilize the funds to address future capital needs. Town meeting had previously authorized the sale, but set a minimum price of \$675,000. No one offered to buy the property at that price. This article would allow the Selectmen to accept an offer at fair market value

Vote Required to Pass: Two-thirds

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 1 TOWN MEETING ACTION: Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE 2. APPROPRIATION AND AUTHORIZATION TO EXPEND CHAPTER 90 FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds received from the state pursuant to Chapter 122 of the Acts of 2006 the sum of \$190,292 for the construction, reconstruction or improvement of public roads and sidewalks, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and enter into contracts for the expenditure of said funds, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman King moved that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds received from the state pursuant to Chapter 122 of the Acts of 2006 the sum of

\$190,292.00 for the construction, reconstruction or improvement of public roads and sidewalks, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and enter into contracts for the expenditure of said funds.

Explanation: On July 25, 2006 the Commonwealth of Massachusetts released additional Chapter 90 local transportation aid and on November 1, 2006 the Board of Selectmen accepted these funds on behalf of the Town. To be spent on roadway projects, the money first must be appropriated by Town Meeting.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 2 TOWN MEETING ACTION: Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE 3. APPROPRIATION OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SCHOOL

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer of available funds the sum of \$101,141 to supplement the fiscal year 2007 operating budget of the Southeastern Regional School, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Corona moved to appropriate the sum of \$91,302 by transfer from the FY 2007 Maturing Debt & Interest Budget to supplement the FY 2007 operating budget of the Southeastern Regional School.

Explanation: The Southeastern Regional School assessment for fiscal year 2007 was set at \$566,851. The 2006 Annual Town Meeting appropriated \$465,710 in hopes that the increase would be reconsidered. Since the assessment was not changed, the Town is legally required to pay the full amount, hence the need for an appropriation for the difference.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 3 TOWN MEETING ACTION: Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE 4. APPROPRIATION OF COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENTS TO NON-UNION EMPLOYEES

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds the sum of \$4,234 to supplement certain fiscal year 2007 operating budgets to fund a 3% cost of

living adjustment granted to non-union employees of the Town, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Haederle moved to appropriate the sum of \$4,234 from the FY 2007 Employee Benefits and Insurance Budget to supplement fiscal year 2007 operating budgets to fund a 3% cost of living adjustment granted to non-union employees of the Town as follows:

Accountant	2,358
Town Collector/Treasurer	<u>1,876</u>
Total	<u>\$ 4,234</u>

Explanation: In June of 2006 the Board of Selectmen approved a 3% cost of living adjustment for fiscal year 2006 to non-union employees of the Town. Since this action followed the Annual Town Meeting, the fiscal year 2007 effect of that adjustment was not funded in the budget. Departments have funded these increases out of their operating budgets where possible.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority
Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended
Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 4 TOWN MEETING ACTION: Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE 5. FUNDING FOR TRASH COLLECTION BILLING SOFTWARE

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds the sum of \$21,000 to fund the purchase of software and related training necessary to implement the curb-side solid waste collection and recycling program, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman King moved to appropriate the sum of \$21,000 from free cash to fund the purchase of software and related training necessary to implement the curb-side solid waste collection and recycling program.

Explanation: This software must be purchased before billing is implemented. The general fund will be reimbursed from program receipts in fiscal year 2008.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority
Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended
Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 5 TOWN MEETING ACTION: Voted.

ARTICLE 6. FUNDING FOR POLICE CRUISERS

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds the sum of \$88,610 to fund the purchase of Police Cruisers and related equipment, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman: Cohen moved to appropriate the sum of \$88,610 from free cash to fund the purchase of Police Cruisers and related equipment.

Explanation: This appropriation will fund the purchase of three police cruisers. This purchase was deferred last spring and not funded at the annual town meeting.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 6 TOWN MEETING ACTION: Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE 7. FUND CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL/ ADMINISTRATIVE UNION

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds the sum of \$92,318 needed to fund the incremental cost items contained in a collective bargaining agreement with members of the UNITED STEELWORKERS AFL-CIO, CLC, LOCAL 16031 UNIT – SUPERVISORY for fiscal years 2006 and 2007, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Corona moved to appropriate the sum of \$92,318 of which \$26,596 shall be transferred from free cash, \$6,315 shall be transferred from the Planning Board Subdivision Review and Inspection Fees Account, \$6,118 shall be transferred from the Conservation Commission Chapter 227 Filing Fee Account, \$15,356 shall be transferred from the Board of Health Food Inspections Services/Education Account, \$33,828 shall be transferred from the FY2007 Employee Benefits and Insurance Budget and \$4,105 shall be transferred from water surplus to fund the incremental cost items contained in a collective bargaining agreement with members of the UNITED STEELWORKERS AFL-CIO, CLC, LOCAL 16031 UNIT – SUPERVISORY for fiscal years 2006 and 2007 as follows:

FY 2006

\$ 38,000

FY 2007 - to supplement the following departmental operating budgets:

**Assessors
Town Clerk**

**\$ 5,563
5,188**

Data Processing	10,628
Land Use & Permitting	17,774
Board of Health	12,074
Veterans Department	<u>3,091</u>
Total	<u>\$ 54,318</u>

Total FY 2006 & 2007 \$ 92,318

Explanation: A group of 27 employees of the Town of Easton consisting of department heads, supervisors, and technical personnel have formed a union and have been negotiating with the Town for several months to establish the initial collective bargaining agreement. Agreement was reached between the Board of Selectmen and the union in December of 2006. The agreement covers the period of July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2008. The agreement provides a 3% cost of living adjustment for each year of the contract. This article provides funding for fiscal years 2006 and 2007. The employees in this bargaining unit have not received a cost of living adjustment since July 1, 2002. Certain departments have funded these increases out of their operating budgets where possible.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 7 TOWN MEETING ACTION: Unanimous Vote (Declared).

**ARTICLE 8: TRANSFER OF CARE, CUSTODY AND CONTROL OF 300
FOUNDRY STREET TO THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Section 15A, to transfer from the care, custody and control of the Board of Selectmen for recreational purposes, to the care, custody and control of the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of selling or disposing of same, a certain parcel of land located at 300 Foundry Street, Easton, Massachusetts and shown on the Town of Easton Assessors' Map R16 as Lot 97, and more fully described in a deed recorded with the Bristol County North Registry of Deeds in Book 8513, Page 149, and shown as Lot 3A on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Easton March 7, 1991" recorded in said Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 310, Page 10 ; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, c. 40, sec. 3 to sell or otherwise dispose of said property upon such terms and conditions as the Board may determine, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Haederle moved that the Town, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Section 15A, transfer from the care, custody and control of the Board of Selectmen for recreational purposes, to the care, custody and control of the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of selling or disposing of same, a certain parcel of land located at 300 Foundry Street, Easton, Massachusetts and shown on the Town of Easton Assessors' Map R16 as Lot 97, and more fully described in a deed recorded with the Bristol County North Registry of Deeds in Book 8513, Page 149, and shown as Lot 3A on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Easton March 7, 1991" recorded in said Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 310, Page 10 ; and authorize the Board of Selectmen, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, c. 40, sec. 3 to sell or otherwise dispose of said property upon such terms and conditions as the Board may determine, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: This land is also the subject of the following article which would authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell it for fair market value. In order to allow that article to be acted upon the purpose for which the Board of Selectmen exercises care, custody, and control must be changed from recreational use to disposal of the property.

Vote Required to Pass: Two-thirds

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 8 TOWN MEETING ACTION: Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE 9. AUTHORIZE SELECTMEN TO SELL FOUNDRY STREET LAND

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, §3, to sell for fair market value, the parcel of land identified on the Assessors Map as Map R16, Lot 97, and more fully described in a deed recorded with the Bristol County North Registry of Deeds in Book 8513, Page 149, and shown as Lot 3A on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Easton March 7, 1991" recorded in said Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 310, Page 10; said lot containing 685,584 square feet and located at 300 Foundry Street; the transfer of the parcel to be done pursuant to the requirements of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30B; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all contracts needed to facilitate the sale of the parcel; or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Haederle moved that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, §3, to sell for fair market value, the parcel of land identified on the Assessors Map as Map R16, Lot 97, and more fully described in a deed recorded with the Bristol County North Registry of Deeds in Book 8513, Page 149, and shown as Lot 3A on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Easton March 7, 1991" recorded in said Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 310, Page 10; said lot containing 685,584 square feet and located at 300 Foundry

Street; the transfer of the parcel to be done pursuant to the requirements of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30B; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all contracts needed to facilitate the sale of the parcel; or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: This parcel was purchased by the Town for recreational purposes. Since that time the Recreation Commission has studied the site and determined that it is unsuitable. The purpose of the article is to sell the property and place the proceeds in an account limited to capital needs associated with recreation.

Vote Required to Pass: Two-thirds

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 9 TOWN MEETING ACTION: Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE 10. MATCHING FUNDS FOR "ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS"
FEDERAL GRANT

To see if the town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds the sum of \$10,110 to match federal funds received to install a "Vehicle Exhaust Removal System" in the fire stations, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Corona moved to appropriate the sum of \$10,110 from free cash to match federal funds received to install a "Vehicle Exhaust Removal System" in the fire stations.

Explanation: The Fire Department was awarded a federal "Assistance to Firefighters" grant in the amount of \$101,100 to complete the installation of a Vehicle Exhaust Removal System in all three stations. The grant stipulates that the federal funding will cover 90% of the grant or \$90,990. The town is required to match the remaining 10% of the funding or \$10,110.

Back in 1995, with limited funds available, a partial vehicle exhaust system was installed in the Lothrop Street Station and the Bay Road Station. The federal grant will allow us to complete the installation. The vehicle bays in all 3 stations will have a system in place to capture the harmful by-products of diesel engine exhaust.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 10 TOWN MEETING ACTION: Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE 11: ACTUARIAL VALUATION OF UNFUNDED POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS LIABILITY

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of conducting actuarial valuations of the Town's unfunded post-employment benefits liability, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman King moved to appropriate the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of conducting actuarial valuations of the Town's unfunded post-employment benefits liability and that to meet this appropriation, \$20,000 shall be transferred from account 01-025-15-6080 voted pursuant to Article 11 of the Special Town Meeting on June 4, 2001.

Explanation: Funding this article will enable early implementation of GASB Statement No. 45, Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions. This is a financial reporting requirement that the Town must comply with by fiscal year 2009. An actuarial valuation will determine the unfunded liability for health insurance benefits in particular. Other communities have completed these valuations and the amounts are staggering. Although a mandate to fund the liability does not currently exist, the funding of it should be a consideration in future financial planning.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 11 TOWN MEETING ACTION: Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE 12. FUNDING FOR EXTRAORDINARY LANDFILL POST-CLOSURE REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds the sum of \$100,000 to fund extraordinary post-closure repair and maintenance expenses at the landfill, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Cohen Motion: I move to appropriate by transfer from the stabilization fund the sum of \$100,000 to fund extraordinary post-closure repair and maintenance expenses at the landfill.

Explanation: This appropriation will be set aside to cover extraordinary repair and maintenance items for the landfill that may occur in the future, particularly for damages to the flare system. At this time, the flare system is intact. This appropriation will not be

used for normal post-closure costs such as testing and monitoring, which are currently funded in the DPW operating budget.

Vote Required to Pass: Two-thirds

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 12 TOWN MEETING ACTION: Unanimous Vote.

**ARTICLE 13. TRANSFER OF UNEXPENDED BOND PROCEEDS TO PAY
NOTE PRINCIPAL ON BAY ROAD LAND PURCHASE**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$100,000 from unexpended proceeds of prior Town bond issues and other available funds for the purpose of paying the principal of the \$100,000 bond anticipation note of the Town payable on October 19, 2007, which note was issued pursuant to the vote of the Town passed September 26, 2005 (Article 11) for the purpose of acquiring property on Bay Road for water supply purposes; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman King moved that the Town appropriate \$100,000 for the purpose of paying the principal of the \$100,000 bond anticipation note of the Town payable on October 19, 2007, which note was issued pursuant to the vote of the Town passed September 26, 2005 (Article 11) for the purpose of acquiring property on Bay Road for water supply purposes and that to meet this appropriation by transferring \$32,288 from Fund 42 voted pursuant to Article 59 of the Annual Town Meeting on April 13, 1998, adjourned to May 11, 1998, \$43,702 from Fund 64 voted pursuant to Article 40 of the Annual Town Meeting on April 13, 1992, adjourned to April 14, 1992, \$16,669 from Fund 65 voted pursuant to Article 14 of the Annual Town Meeting on April 11, 1994, \$253 from Fund 69 voted pursuant to Article 10 of the Special Town Meeting on November 22, 1999 and \$7,088 from water surplus.

Explanation: This article changes the funding source of the Bay Road land purchase to use surplus bond proceeds from several water projects so that less money will be borrowed.

Vote Required to Pass: Two-thirds

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 13 TOWN MEETING ACTION: Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE 14. STREET ACCEPTANCE – KEVIN’S WAY

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, KEVIN’S WAY, as a public way, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws. c. 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 28+36.38 as shown on a plan of land entitled “Easton Country Estates A Residential Subdivision In Easton, MA Owned And Developed By: Matthew A. Welch and John A. Keach,” drafted by Ribelin Land Surveyors, Inc., dated July 2, 1993, recorded in Plan Book 337, Pages 13-18; as approved by the Board of Appeals as a Comprehensive Permit on July 14, 1993 and recorded with the Bristol County North District Registry of Deeds, Book 5642, Pages 301 through 306, containing 162,014 square feet, all as shown on a plan entitled “Easton Country Estates A Residential Subdivision in Easton, MA Owned And Developed By: Matthew A. Welch and John A. Keach,” and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an easement deed, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws. c. 40, §§ 3 and 14, for a drainage easement near Station 4+40, containing 991 square feet; a drainage easement near Station 10+10, containing 1000 square feet; a drainage easement near Station 14+46, containing 1000 square feet; a drainage easement near Station 19+83, containing 1000 square feet; a drainage easement near Station 22+87, containing 1000 square feet; a drainage easement near Parcel 38/39 (southwesterly side Kevin’s Way and northeasterly side of Kristen’s Way), containing 1366 square feet; a drainage easement near Parcel 41/42 (southwesterly side of Kevin’s Way and the northeasterly side of Kristen’s Way), containing 2091 square feet, all shown on a plan entitled “Easton Country Estates A Residential Subdivision In Easton, MA Owned And Developed By: Matthew A. Welch and John A. Keach,” and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws. c. 40, §§ 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in said way, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Corona moved that the Town accept the following named street or way, KEVIN’S WAY, as a public way, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws. c. 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 28+36.38 as shown on a plan of land entitled “Easton Country Estates A Residential Subdivision In Easton, MA Owned And Developed By: Matthew A. Welch and John A. Keach,” drafted by Ribelin Land Surveyors, Inc., dated July 2, 1993, recorded in Plan Book 337, Pages 13-18; as approved by the Board of Appeals as a Comprehensive Permit on July 14, 1993 and recorded with the Bristol County North District Registry of Deeds, Book 5642, Pages 301 through 306, containing 162,014 square feet, all as shown on a plan entitled “Easton Country Estates A Residential Subdivision in Easton, MA Owned And Developed By: Matthew A. Welch and John A. Keach,” and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an easement deed, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws. c. 40, §§ 3 and 14, for a drainage easement near Station 4+40, containing 991 square feet; a drainage easement near Station 10+10, containing 1000 square feet; a drainage easement near Station 14+46, containing 1000 square feet; a drainage easement near Station 19+83, containing 1000 square feet; a drainage easement near Station 22+87, containing 1000 square feet; a drainage easement near Parcel 38/39 (southwesterly side Kevin’s Way and northeasterly side of Kristen’s Way), containing 1366 square feet; a drainage easement near Parcel 41/42 (southwesterly side of Kevin’s Way and

the northeasterly side of Kristen's Way), containing 2091 square feet, all shown on a plan entitled "Easton Country Estates A Residential Subdivision In Easton, MA Owned And Developed By: Matthew A. Welch and John A. Keach," and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws. c. 40, §§ 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in said way, or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: Kevin's Way is the main street in a sub-division known as Easton Country Estates. The side roads that run off Kevin's Way have been accepted by the Town as Public Ways therefore making the only access to these Public Ways to be from a Private Way. The property owners along Kevin's Way have had difficulty obtaining some basic tax supported public services such as street lighting. The Director of Public Works and the Planning Director support the acceptance of this way; and the Planning Board will hold a public hearing after publication of this warrant relative to this acceptance. This was previously recommended for acceptance as a public way at the 2006 Annual Town Meeting and rejected.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 14 TOWN MEETING ACTION: Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE 15: RESCISSION OF AUTHORITY TO ACQUIRE PROPERTY FOR LIBRARY ACCESS ROAD BY EMINENT DOMAIN

To see if the Town will vote to rescind authorization given to the Board of Selectmen pursuant to Article 34 of the Annual Town Meeting of May 17, 2004 to acquire a fee interest in certain real property known as 37 Lincoln Street, Easton, Massachusetts, shown on Town of Easton Assessors' Map number U16 as Lot 15A, being more fully described in a deed recorded at the Bristol County North Registry of Deeds in Book 1639, Page 859, to provide a proposed access drive from Lincoln Street to the Ames Free Library/Easton Public Library, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Cohen moved that the Town rescind authorization given to the Board of Selectmen pursuant to Article 34 of the Annual Town Meeting of May 17, 2004 to acquire a fee interest in certain real property known as 37 Lincoln Street, Easton, Massachusetts, shown on Town of Easton Assessors' Map number U16 as Lot 15A, being more fully described in a deed recorded at the Bristol County North Registry of Deeds in Book 1639, Page 859, to provide a proposed access drive from Lincoln Street to the Ames Free Library/Easton Public Library, or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: This article rescinds authorization to take by eminent domain a parcel of land on Lincoln Street. The purpose of this land taking no longer exists as plans for a library addition and new access have been rejected by Town Meeting.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 15 TOWN MEETING ACTION: Unanimous Vote.

The Special Town Meeting was DISSOLVED at 8:02 p.m. Total voters present – 177.

A true record. Attest: Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC, Town Clerk

You are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof one at each meeting house and post office and one at the gymnasium of the Olmsted/Richardson school and at the Town Offices, fourteen days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

Given under our hands this 22nd day of January the year Two Thousand Seven.

Colleen A. Corona, Chair
John S. Haederle, Clerk
Charles P. King
Colleen A. Less
Irwin M. Cohen
EASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Easton, Mass. January 23, 2007

By virtue hereof and as within directed, I have this day posted attested copies of this Warrant.

John D. Melin, Constable of Easton

A true copy. Attest:

Janet Andrus Linehan

Town Clerk of Easton

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Town of Easton

Warrant for Annual Town Election

April 24, 2007

Bristol, ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town who are qualified to vote in elections to vote at:

Precincts 1, 2, 4 - Oliver Ames High School Gymnasium, Lothrop Street
Precincts 3 & 6 - Knights of Columbus Hall, 375 Foundry Street
Precinct 5 - Easton Baptist Church, 195 Bay Road

On TUESDAY, THE TWENTY-FOURTH DAY OF APRIL, 2007, from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes on one ballot for the following officers:

Two Selectmen for terms of three years;
One Assessor for a term of three years;
Two School Committee members for terms of three years;
One Board of Health member for a term of three years;
One Housing Authority member for a term of five years;
Three Finance Committee members for terms of three years;
One Finance Committee member for a term of one year;

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this 5 day of March, 2007.

William A. Loran
William A. Loran
Charles P. King
[Signature]

SELECTMEN OF EASTON

Easton, Mass.

3/8/07

By virtue hereof and as within directed, I have this day posted attested copies of this Warrant.

[Signature]

Constable of Easton

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

[Signature]

TOWN CLERK OF EASTON

Annual Town Election
April 24, 2007

In accordance with the Warrant, the voters of the Town met at their respective polling places on Tuesday, April 24, 2007. The polls were opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m.

The following named persons were duly sworn and performed the duties of election officers:

Precinct One – Robert McLaughlin, Warden; Wilfred Roberge, Deputy Warden; Sandra Keach, Clerk; Melvin Diamond, Deputy Clerk; Robert Thornton, Carolyn Diamond, Donald Phillips, Martha Nugent, Checkers.

Precinct Two – Maureen Papineau, Warden; Dorothy Conceison, Deputy Warden; Jean Harney, Deputy Clerk; Doris Welch, Virginia Corte, Judith Thomas, John Papineau, Katherine Gill, Checkers.

Precinct Three – Arlene Keach, Warden; Evelyn Carlson, Deputy Warden; Rena Salkovitz, Clerk; Joseph Camara, Deputy Clerk; Rose Furlong, Checker.

Precinct Four – Elizabeth A. Porter, Warden; Lorraine Anderson, Deputy Warden; Constance Dumoulin, Clerk; David DeVore, Deputy Clerk; Elaine Dahlgren, Ethel Gardner, Diane Howard, Checkers.

Precinct Five – Blanche Hicks, Warden; Bennie Moore, Deputy Warden; Helena Luxton, Clerk; Virginia Curley, Deputy Clerk; Jean Shearing, Nicolina Previti, Althea Thornton, Nancy Carter, Checkers.

Precinct Six – Harvey Blackman, Warden; Antonio Cabral, Deputy Warden; Anne Martin, Clerk; Kristine Abrams, Estelle Blackman, Joan Hayward, Jean Fisher, Checkers.

OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS:

14,184 Registered Voters

4% Turnout

Total Votes Cast:	Pct 1	Pct 2	Pct 3	Pct 4	Pct 5	Pct 6	Total
	64	148	75	145	185	76	693

(Bold type = Elected to Office)

SELECTMEN (Three Years) (Not more than Two)

Charles P. King	33	98	55	86	116	53	441
Ellen Barlow	44	103	57	104	143	57	508
Blanks & Scattering	51	95	38	100	111	42	437
Total	128	296	150	290	370	152	1386

ASSESSOR (Three Years) (One)

Wallace M. Fulcher	49	117	62	102	140	56	526
Blanks & Scattering	15	31	13	43	45	20	167
Total	64	148	75	145	185	76	693

	Pct 1	Pct 2	Pct 3	Pct 4	Pct 5	Pct 6	Total
SCHOOL COMMITTEE (Three Years) (Not more than Two)							
Dawn Marie Boynton	44	108	51	118	128	48	497
Jane H. Martin	45	88	50	89	143	50	465
Enid Stecker	13	42	24	38	51	25	193
Blanks & Scattering	26	58	25	45	48	29	231
Total	128	296	150	290	370	152	1386

BOARD OF HEALTH (Three Years) (One)							
Robert J. Kane	45	120	67	107	140	58	537
Blanks & Scattering	19	28	8	38	45	18	156
Total	64	148	75	145	185	76	693

HOUSING AUTHORITY (Five Years) (One)							
Dennis Sheedy	28	62	39	65	84	38	316
Joan C. Morrison	28	63	27	50	71	30	269
Blanks & Scattering	8	23	9	30	30	8	108
Total	64	148	75	145	185	76	693

FINANCE COMMITTEE (Three Years) (Not More than Three)							
Patrick A. Goodman	38	110	58	97	126	54	483
Donna A. Lopolito	38	103	54	90	130	52	467
Stephen J. Delano	41	99	57	79	120	49	445
Blanks & Scattering	75	132	56	169	179	73	684
Total	192	444	225	435	555	228	2079

Finance Committee (One Year) (One)							
Richard Coose	52	120	62	96	139	58	527
Blanks & Scattering	12	28	13	49	46	18	166
Total	64	148	75	145	185	76	693

A true record. Attest: *Janet Andrus Linehan*
Town Clerk

**TOWN OF EASTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

May 21, 2007

BRISTOL, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton in the County of Bristol:
GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Easton qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet in the Olmsted/Richardson School Gymnasium in said Easton on Monday, the 21st day of May, next, at 7:00 P.M., then and there to act upon the following articles:

*ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 21, 2007
OLMSTED/RICHARDSON SCHOOL GYMNASIUM*

Town Moderator Richard C. Dailey called the Annual Town Meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. with quorum present. The following non-registered voters were allowed into the hall: **DEPARTMENT HEADS:** (Per Charter Section 2-4 Shall Attend Town Meeting): David A. Colton, Town Administrator; Janet Andrus Linehan, Town Clerk; Anne Carney, Assistant Assessor; Wendy V. Nightingale, Town Accountant; Teresa DeSilva, Treasurer/Collector; William Simmons, School Superintendent; Wade Saucier, Health Director; Marc Rousseau, Planning Director; Michael Deltano, Information Systems Manager; D. Mark Trivett, Building Inspector; John J. Marsh, Water Superintendent; Maurice Goulet, DPW Operations Manager. **OTHER TOWN EMPLOYEES:** Michael Green, Ed. D., Assistant to Superintendent; Marilyn Gordon, School Business Manager; Annalee Bundy, Library Director Madeline Holt, Asst. Library Director; Eric Davis, Data Processing; Eileen Marum, Intern, Town Administrator/Selectmen's Office. **OTHERS:** Ellen Callahan Doucette, Brackett & Lucas, Town Counsel; Luis G. Lopes, Jerome Burke, Patrick Meagher, Southeastern Regional School District. **MEDIA:** Enterprise: Vicki Downing, Susan Toler; Easton Journal: Jessica Hackett, Bill Gouveia; Media One: Robyn Souza, Wayne Hadley. **REPRESENTATIVES:** Congressman Stephen Lynch & Jim Gordon, District Office Rep.; State Senator Robert Creedon; State Senator Brian Joyce; State Representative Christine Canavan; State Representative Geraldine Creedon; State Representative David Flynn. **REQUESTING ADMITTANCE FOR 5/21/07:** Boy's state students: Peter Brown, Cory Coose, Kevin Coughlin, Christopher C. Droukas, Bryon Drown, Stepehn Ivanoski, Douglas Leonard, Timothy Louko, Sean Maloney, Jeremy Mudd, Jeffrey Rosen, Bradley Shalek, Richard Starr; Girl's State students: Jessica Bass, Caroline Hart, Jennifer Lance, Lauren Maggio, Kelly McKenna, Lydia Mullen, Jennifer O'Shea, Jessica Pickett, Kerry Pickett, Lauren Silverstein, Aisha Stewart, Erika Swanson. Marcy Stefura, Historical Commission; Randi Graham, 27 Baldwin Street; Lisa Mead, Special Town Counsel;

The Pledge of Allegiance was stated by all present. Moderator Dailey then explained that for the Street Acceptance Articles (31-62) he will read all the street names and if anyone has any comments, questions, etc. they should state "hold", similar to the process used for the budget.

ARTICLE 1. ACCEPTANCE OF ANNUAL REPORTS

To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the Selectmen, Town Administrator, Assessors, Board of Health, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Collector of Taxes, School

Committee, Town Accountant, Director of Public Works, and other Departments, Boards and Committees of the Town, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Colleen Corona moved that the Town vote to accept the reports of the Selectmen, Town Administrator, Assessors, Board of Health, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Collector of Taxes, School Committee, Town Accountant, Director of Public Works, and other Departments, Boards and Committees of the Town.

Explanation: This is an annual vote to accept the Town Report.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 1 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 2. REVOLVING FUND FOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Conservation Commission, pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 44, section 53E 1/2, to set up a revolving fund for fiscal year 2008, known as the "Conservation Chapter 227 Filing Fee Account", which shall be accounted for separately from all other monies of the Town, and to which shall be deposited departmental fees and receipts, to pay for the reasonable costs and expenses, for supplies and services as deemed necessary by the Commission to aid it in making its decisions on such applications, or in enforcement cases where such applications should have been legally filed, or for other such enforcement actions, and for the administrative costs related thereto, with said departmental fees and receipts to be expended without appropriation, and to specify as follows:

1. The revolving fund shall be expended only for the purpose of paying for supplies and services, and the administrative costs related thereto, as deemed necessary by the Commission to aid it in making its decisions on such conservation applications, or on necessary enforcement actions;
2. Only fees and receipts received from applicants for Conservation Permits, or Application for "Requests for Determination", shall be deposited in such account;
3. The Conservation Commission shall be the only Town body authorized to expend such fund, and
4. The amounts expended from fiscal year 2008, "Conservation Chapter 227 Filing Fee Account", shall not exceed \$35,000.

or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Conservation Commission

Selectman Colleen Corona moved that the Town vote to authorize the Conservation Commission, pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 44, section 53E 1/2, to set up a revolving fund for fiscal year 2008, known as the "Conservation Chapter 227 Filing Fee Account" as printed in your warrant.

Explanation: This article is required annually to establish the Conservation Commission's revolving account.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority
Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended
Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 2 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 3. REVOLVING FUND FOR PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Planning & Zoning Board, pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. 44, Section 53E 1/2, to set up a revolving fund for fiscal year 2008 known as the "Subdivision Review and Inspection Fees Account", which shall be accounted for separately from all other moneys of the Town, and to which are to be deposited fees received in connection with subdivision approval for application review and inspections during construction, to pay for the reasonable costs and expenses of the Board for expert engineering and consultant services and administrative costs related thereto, as deemed necessary by the Board with said fees to be expended without further appropriation, and to specify as follows:

1. The revolving fund shall be expended only for the purpose of paying for the services of expert engineers and consultants, and related administrative cost, deemed necessary by the Board to pay for the reasonable costs and expenses of application review and inspections during construction; and any other related expenses of the Planning and Zoning Board.
2. Only fees received from applicants in connection with subdivision approval for application review and inspections during construction shall be deposited in such account.
3. The Planning & Zoning Board shall be the only Town body authorized to expend such fund, and;
4. The amounts expended from fiscal year 2008 "Subdivision Review and Inspection Fees", shall not exceed \$50,000.

or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Planning and Zoning Board

Selectman Colleen Corona moved that the Town vote to authorize the Planning & Zoning Board, pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. 44, Section 53E 1/2, to set up a revolving fund for fiscal year 2008 known as the "Subdivision Review and Inspection Fees Account" as printed in your warrant.

Explanation: This article is required annually to establish the Planning and Zoning Board's revolving account.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority
Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended
Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 3 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 4. APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR ROAD AND SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds the sum of \$58,000 for road and sidewalk improvements, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Colleen Corona **moved that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from available mitigation funds received from Shaw’s Supermarkets the sum of \$58,000 for road and sidewalk improvements.**

Explanation: This article will appropriate mitigation funds received from Shaw’s Supermarkets for road and sidewalk improvements in the Town.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority
Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended
Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 4 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 5. APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING STUDY

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds the sum of \$15,000 to conduct a structural engineering study of Fire Station 2, located on Depot Street, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Charles King **moved that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from free cash the sum of \$15,000 to conduct a structural engineering study of Fire Station 2, located on Depot Street.**

Explanation: Fire Station 2 is in need of considerable repairs and maintenance. A structural engineering study will determine the extent of damage, the repairs necessary, and the estimated costs.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority
Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended
Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 5 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 6. ESTABLISHMENT OF FISCAL YEAR 2008 SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds, the sum of \$1,050,000, for the purpose of funding the fiscal year 2008 Solid Waste and Recycling Collection and Disposal Enterprise Fund operating budget, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Charles King moved that the Town vote to appropriate from annual user fees the sum of \$1,050,000 for the purpose of funding the fiscal year 2008 Solid Waste and Recycling Collection and Disposal Enterprise Fund operating budget.

Explanation: This is the annual operating budget for the new single-vendor trash program in town.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 6 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 7. SUPPLEMENT FISCAL YEAR 2007 BUDGETS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds the sum of \$22,000 to supplement the following fiscal year 2007 budgets, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Accountant	\$12,000
Veterans	<u>10,000</u>
Total	<u>\$22,000</u>

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Charles King moved that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from the FY'07 Employee Benefits and Insurance Budget the sum of \$22,000 to supplement the following fiscal year 2007 budgets:

Town Accountant	\$12,000
Veterans	<u>10,000</u>
Total	<u>\$22,000</u>

Explanation: The Town Accountant's budget requires additional funds to cover a retirement buyback and the Veteran's budget will need supplemental funding for increased veteran's benefits that will receive 75% reimbursement from the state in a subsequent fiscal year.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 7 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 8. PAYMENT OF BILL(S) FROM A PRIOR FISCAL YEAR

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay the cost of bills incurred in a prior fiscal year, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Charles King **moved to dismiss Article 8.**

Explanation: There are no prior year bills to be paid at this time.

Vote Required to Pass: 4/5

Selectmen Recommendation: N/A

Finance Committee Recommendation: N/A

**ARTICLE 8 TOWN MEETING ACTION: DISMISSED
UNANIMOUSLY.**

ARTICLE 9. RESCIND PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED DEBT (TOWN WELL).

To see if the Town will vote to rescind \$400,000 of the borrowing authorized under article 19 of the April 10, 1995 Annual Town Meeting, said funding originally appropriated for construction of a town well, but no longer needed as the project is complete, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Irwin Cohen **moved that the Town vote to rescind \$400,000 of the borrowing authorized under article 19 of the April 10, 1995 Annual Town Meeting, said funding originally appropriated for construction of a town well, but no longer needed as the project is complete.**

Explanation: The town well, known as Well #7, has been constructed. The original authorization was for \$1,500,000, but the actual cost was only \$1,100,000. This "housekeeping" article will remove the unspent authorization from the Town's books.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 9 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 10. RESCIND PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED DEBT (FY04 CAPITAL BUDGET).

To see if the Town will vote to rescind \$26,000 of the borrowing authorized under article 16 of the May 19, 2003 Annual Town Meeting, adjourned to June 9, 2003, said funding originally appropriated for the Fiscal Year 2004 Capital Budget, but no longer needed as costs were less than anticipated, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Irwin Cohen **moved that the Town vote to rescind \$26,000 of the borrowing authorized under article 16 of the May 19, 2003 Annual Town Meeting, adjourned to June 9, 2003, said funding originally appropriated for the Fiscal Year 2004 Capital Budget, but no longer needed as costs were less than anticipated.**

Explanation: The original borrowing authorization was for \$1,120,000. Included in this authorization was the purchase of 4 police cruisers at an estimated cost of \$140,000. The actual cost of the four cruisers was \$114,000. This "housekeeping" article will remove the unspent authorization from the Town's books.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 10 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 11. RESCIND PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED DEBT (DEAN STREET LAND PURCHASE WITH CPA FUNDS).

To see if the Town will vote to rescind \$275,000 of the borrowing authorized under article 12 of the September 26, 2005 Special Town Meeting, said funding originally appropriated for the purpose of acquiring property located on Dean Street identified on Assessor's Map R21 as Lot 4 on behalf of the Town under the Community Preservation Act (Mass. Gen. Laws, c. 44B), or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

Selectman Irwin Cohen moved that the Town vote to rescind \$275,000 of the borrowing authorized under article 12 of the September 26, 2005 Special Town Meeting, said funding originally appropriated for the purpose of acquiring property located on Dean Street identified on Assessor's Map R21 as Lot 4 on behalf of the Town under the Community Preservation Act (Mass. Gen. Laws, c. 44B).

Explanation: The original borrowing authorization was for \$1,750,000. The Town issued \$1,475,000 in short term notes for the purchase (the final cost actually bonded was \$1,420,000). However, the \$275,000 difference between the original authorization and short term notes issued remains on the books. This "housekeeping" article will remove that unspent authorization.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 11 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 12. APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVOR AND PREVENTION SERVICES

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate by transfer from available funds, the amount of \$4,500 to fund a contract for fiscal year 2008 for services provided to sexual assault survivors and their families, as well as services associated with the prevention of sexual assaults and other services associated therewith, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into said contract, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Ellen Barlow moved that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from free cash, the amount of \$4,500 to fund a contract for FY 2008 for services provided to sexual assault survivors and their families, as well as services associated with the prevention of sexual assaults and other services associated therewith, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into said contract.

Explanation: We have appropriated funds for this purpose for many years and propose that we continue to make these essential services available in the community.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 12 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 13. AMEND FISCAL YEAR 2007 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Fiscal Year 2007 Community Preservation Budget and to appropriate or reserve for later appropriation monies from available Community Preservation Funds for the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee, the payment of debt service, the undertaking of Community Preservation Projects and all other necessary and proper expenses for the year, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

Selectman Ellen Barlow moved that the Town vote to amend the Fiscal Year 2007 Community Preservation Budget by appropriating from the Community Preservation Fund annual budgeted reserve the following amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation.

<u>Reserves</u>	<u>Recommended Amount</u>
Open Space	\$ 44,324
Community Housing	44,324
Historic Resources	44,324

Explanation: This article amends the current year's budget for the Community Preservation Committee. Patricia Hunt, Chair of the CPA Committee, will make a presentation at town meeting to further explain this article.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 13 TOWN MEETING ACTION: VOTED.

ARTICLE 14. REPORT AND FISCAL YEAR 2008 BUDGET OF THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

To see if the Town will vote to act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the Fiscal Year 2008 Community Preservation Budget and to appropriate or reserve for later appropriation monies from Community Preservation Fund annual revenues or available funds for the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee, the payment of debt service, the undertaking of Community Preservation Projects and all other necessary and proper expenses for the year, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

Selectman Ellen Barlow moved that the Town vote to appropriate or reserve from Community Preservation Fund annual revenues the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for administrative expenses, community preservation projects, the payment of debt service and other expenses in fiscal year 2008, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation.

PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2008 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION BUDGET

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Recommended Amount</u>
Appropriations	
Community Preservation Administrative Expenses	\$ 60,000
Debt Service (Open Space Land Acquisition)	110,100
Reserves	
Open Space	\$ 9,900
Community Housing	120,000
Historic Resources	120,000
FY'08 Annual Budgeted Reserve	780,000

Explanation: This article proposes the fiscal year 2008 budget for the Community Preservation Committee. Patricia Hunt, Chair of the CPA Committee, will make a presentation at town meeting to further explain this article.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 14 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 15. APPROPRIATION AND AUTHORIZATION TO EXPEND CHAPTER 90 FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds received from the State's FY 2008 Chapter 90 apportionment the sum of \$518,287 for the

construction, reconstruction or improvement of public roads and sidewalks, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and enter into contracts for the expenditure of said funds, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman John Haederle moved that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds received from the State's FY 2008 Chapter 90 apportionment the sum of \$518,287 for the construction, reconstruction or improvement of public roads and sidewalks, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and enter into contracts for the expenditure of said funds.

Explanation: This is the Town's annual share of Chapter 90 funds provided by the state for road related improvements in the community.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 15 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Karl Walter requested admittance to the hall for his two sons, one of who is working for his Boy Scout communications merit badge. Admittance allowed.

ARTICLE 16. GRANTING EASEMENTS TO NATIONAL GRID

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant easements to National Grid to facilitate the installation, operation and maintenance of overhead/underground electrical distribution system for the following schools:

Moreau Hall on Washington Street; Center School on Depot Street; and Parkview School on Spooner Street, all as described in easement documents to be recorded at the Bristol North District Registry of Deeds and as shown on plans which shall be marked as Exhibit A and attached to each easement document, said plans are entitled: "Moreau Hall Elementary School Partial Electrical Site Plan", "Center Elementary School Partial Electrical Site Plan", "Parkview Elementary School Partial Electrical Site Plan" respectively. Copies of said plans being available for review in the Office of the Town Administrator, or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman John Haederle moved that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant an easement to National Grid to facilitate the installation, operation and maintenance of an overhead/underground electrical distribution system for Moreau Hall on Washington Street; Center School on Depot Street; and Parkview School on Spooner Street as printed in your warrant.

Explanation: This project was approved and funded at the 2006 Annual Town Meeting. The Capital Planning Committee had given their recommendation to upgrade the electrical systems within the three elementary schools, Center School, Parkview School and Moreau Hall. The easements are necessary to install transformer pads and underground piping onto private property.

Vote Required to Pass: Two-Thirds
Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended
Finance Committee Recommendation: N/A

ARTICLE 16 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 17. ACCEPTANCE OF DRAINAGE EASEMENT

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an interest in a drainage easement located upon the property at 67 Center Street, Assessor's Map U21, Parcel 266, presently owned by the SFN Realty Trust; as shown on a plan entitled "Easement Plan of Land in Easton, Massachusetts Prepared for the Town of Easton Scale 1"=20'dated October 11, 2006 Hayward-Boynton & Williams, Inc., Surveyors Civil Engineers 140 School St. Brockton, Mass." or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman John Haederle moved that the Board of Selectmen be authorized to accept an interest in a drainage easement located upon the property at 67 Center Street, Assessor's Map U21, Parcel 266, presently owned by the SFN Realty Trust; as shown on a plan entitled "Easement Plan of Land in Easton, Massachusetts Prepared for the Town of Easton Scale 1"=20'dated October 11, 2006 Hayward-Boynton & Williams, Inc., Surveyors Civil Engineers 140 School St. Brockton, Mass."

Explanation: The drainage easement is necessary to allow a town drain line to be installed on private property in a needed location. The drain line will run along the southerly property line of the parcel and then along the easterly property line, connecting to the existing drain line of Center Street.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority
Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended
Finance Committee Recommendation: N/A

ARTICLE 17 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 18. ACCEPTANCE OF CHAPTER 39 SECTION 23D

To see if the Town will accept the provisions of Mass. Gen. Laws c. 39 section 23D as to all adjudicatory hearings conducted by all town boards, committees and commissions; or take any other action with respect thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Colleen Corona moved to see if the Town will accept the provisions of Mass. Gen. Laws c. 39 section 23D as to all adjudicatory hearings conducted by all town boards, committees and commissions; or take any other action with respect thereto.

Explanation: In Mullin v. Planning Board of Brewster 17 Mass.App.Ct. 139 (1983), the Massachusetts Appeals Court ruled that any member of a municipal board who does not

attend a public hearing as well as all continuations thereof, on an application in which the board will ultimately render an adjudicatory decision, e.g. the grant of special permits, variances, subdivision approval, etc. will be disqualified from participating in the decision making process, i.e., they cannot deliberate or vote on the matter. The result of this rule is that in situations where the public hearing may be extended over time, a board may lose its voting members and may have to begin anew the entire public hearing resulting in an inefficient process or, be confronted with the possibility that the relief requested will be constructively granted. To resolve this issue, the Legislature recently enacted M.G.L. Chapter 39, §23D which, upon local acceptance, allows any board member who misses one meeting to participate in the process upon the following conditions: before any such vote, the member shall certify in writing that he/she has examined all evidence received at the missed session, which evidence shall include an audio or video recording of the missed session or a transcript thereof. This written certification becomes part of the record of the hearing.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 18 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 19. ACCEPTANCE OF M.G.L. CHAPTER 40, §8J – AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DISABILITY COMMISSION

To see if the Town will accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 40, §8J establishing a Commission on Disabilities consisting of 5 members to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen, the majority of whom shall be disabled persons; one of such members may be a member of the immediate family of a disabled person and one member shall be either an elected or appointed official of the town; the terms of the first members of said commission shall be for one, two or three years, and so arranged that the term of one-third of the members expires each year, and their successor shall be appointed for terms of three years each; the Commission on Disabilities shall coordinate and carry out programs designed to meet the problems of the handicapped in coordination with programs of the Office of Handicapped Affairs; shall research local problems of the handicapped and shall coordinate the activities of other local groups organized for similar purposes, and may advertise, prepare, print, and distribute books, maps, charts, plans and pamphlets necessary for its work; the Commission shall file an Annual Report which shall be printed in the Town Annual Report and shall have at least ten meetings annually, or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Colleen Corona moved to see if the Town will accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 40, §8J establishing a Commission on Disabilities consisting of 5 members to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen, as printed in your warrant.

Explanation: The Town of Easton does not presently have a Commission on Disabilities. Acceptance of this provision will allow the Selectmen to appoint a committee of residents

who shall "coordinate and carry out programs designed to meet the problems of the handicapped..." Disabled residents have asked that the Town establish this Commission.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 19 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 20 . AUTHORIZATION FOR SPECIAL LEGISLATION

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to file the following Special Legislation with the Massachusetts Senate and House of Representatives:

An Act Relative to Elected Officials in and Relative to the Group Insurance Program of the Town of Easton.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding Chapter 32B of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, any elected official in the Town of Easton who receives a stipend shall not be eligible for participation in the town's contributory health (medical and dental) and life insurance plans. However, officials elected prior to **May 1, 2007** who currently participate in such plan(s) shall be eligible to continue participation until the end of their current terms at the same rate of contribution as non-union employees. Further, elected officials who receive a stipend shall remain eligible to participate in the plans, but shall be required to pay 100 percent of the cost of such participation plus any administrative costs that may be assessed by the Board of Selectmen.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Colleen Corona moved that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to file Special Legislation with the Massachusetts Senate and House of Representatives as printed in your warrant.

Explanation: Under state law, elected officials who receive a stipend are eligible to participate in the town's health care program with the town contributing to the cost of their participation. This legislation, if passed, would allow eligible elected officials to continue under the current program through the end of their current term. As each term expires, and for future elected officials, they can participate in the town's health care program but only if they pay 100% of the cost.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 20 TOWN MEETING ACTION: VOTED.

ARTICLE 21. ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMPENSATION

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elected officers of the Town, as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as follows:

Board of Selectmen, each member	\$1,800
Board of Health, each member	\$1,000
Board of Assessors, each member	\$1,800
Moderator	\$ 100

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Charles King moved that the Town vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elected officers of the Town, as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as printed in your warrant.

Explanation: This is an annual article, required by statute, to set the salary levels for all compensated elected officials.

- Vote Required to Pass: Majority
- Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended
- Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 21 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 22. FY 2008 OPERATING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer, the sum of \$58,354,918 to defray the Town charges for the ensuing fiscal year including the salaries of the several elected and appointed officers of the Town, and make appropriations for same, as listed below, or take any other action relative thereto.

FD-DPT	DEPARTMENT NAME	TOTAL
01-003	SELECTMEN	281,147
01-007	TOWN COUNSEL	180,000
01-011	FINANCE COMMITTEE	3,000
01-013	RESERVE FUND	80,000
01-025	ACCOUNTANT	166,589
01-029	ASSESSORS	212,383
01-033	TOWN COLLECTOR/TREASURER	277,760
01-039	TOWN CLERK	236,266
01-051	DATA PROCESSING	245,265
01-060	PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	273,267

01-101	POLICE	3,421,901
01-103	FIRE	2,608,779
01-104	AMBULANCE	383,420
01-105	FIRE ALARM	21,792
01-113	INSPECTIONAL SERVICES	255,286
01-225	SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SCHOOL	612,590
01-300	DPW ADMINISTRATION	2,548,694
01-501	BOARD OF HEALTH	237,066
01-531	COUNCIL ON AGING	191,996
01-551	VETERANS DEPARTMENT	216,250
01-600	RECREATION DEPARTMENT	91,411
01-625	LIBRARY	429,967
01-700	MATURING DEBT & INTEREST	4,251,284
01-750	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS & INSURANCE	9,673,574
01-760	OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT	106,125
61-500	WATER DIVISION	2,456,741
	SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	<u>28,892,365</u>
		-
	TOTAL FY 2008 BUDGET	<u>58,354,918</u>

Submitted by Town Administrator

Selectman Irwin Cohen moved that the Town appropriate the sum of \$58,354,918 of which \$55,054,320 shall be raised by taxation, \$111,174 shall be transferred from free cash, \$109,930 shall be transferred from the Conservation Fund, \$55,000 shall be transferred from the Conservation Commission Chapter 227 Filing Fee Account, \$20,000 shall be transferred from the Planning Board Subdivision Review and Inspection Fees Account and \$3,004,494 shall be transferred from water receipts, all to meet the Town charges, including the salaries of several elected and appointed officers of the Town for fiscal year 2008 as follows:

FD-DPT	DEPARTMENT NAME	TOTAL
01-003	SELECTMEN	281,147
01-007	TOWN COUNSEL	180,000
01-011	FINANCE COMMITTEE	3,000
01-013	RESERVE FUND	80,000
01-025	ACCOUNTANT	166,589
01-029	ASSESSORS	212,383
01-033	TOWN COLLECTOR/TREASURER	277,760
01-039	TOWN CLERK	236,266
01-051	DATA PROCESSING	245,265
01-060	PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	273,267
01-101	POLICE	3,421,901
01-103	FIRE	2,608,779

01-104	AMBULANCE	383,420
01-105	FIRE ALARM	21,792
01-113	INSPECTIONAL SERVICES	255,286
01-225	SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SCHOOL	612,590
01-300	DPW ADMINISTRATION	2,548,694
01-501	BOARD OF HEALTH	237,066
01-531	COUNCIL ON AGING	191,996
01-551	VETERANS DEPARTMENT	216,250
01-600	RECREATION DEPARTMENT	91,411
01-625	LIBRARY	429,967
01-700	MATURING DEBT & INTEREST	4,251,284
01-750	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS & INSURANCE	9,673,574
01-760	OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT	106,125
61-500	WATER DIVISION	2,456,741
	SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	28,892,365
		-
	TOTAL FY 2008 BUDGET	58,354,918

Explanation: This is the annual operating budget for the Town. The Town Administrator and others will make a presentation at town meeting regarding this proposal.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 22 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 23. FY 2008 CAPITAL BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by borrowing, or appropriate by transfer from available funds, the sum of \$1,350,584 for the purpose of meeting the capital budget needs of the Town for fiscal year 2008 as listed below, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Clerk

Upgrade Voting Machines, Archival of Records \$ 61,765

DPW – Buildings & Grounds

Police/Fire Station #1 Roof Repair and Concrete Pad at Entrance,
Replace Fencing at Center Street, Log Truck, Field Line Painter 230,000

New Roof on Center Street Building 250,000

DPW – Highway

Front Loader, 1-Ton Dump Truck with Sander & Plow, Utility

Vehicle	200,000
<u>Police Department</u>	
Two Police Cruisers	50,919
<u>Fire Department</u>	
Ambulance Report Hardware/Software, Fire Prevention Vehicle, Automatic Defibrillators	61,000
<u>Building Department</u>	
Pickup Truck	15,000
<u>Board of Health</u>	
Pickup Truck	16,000
<u>School Department</u>	
SPED Van Replacement, Moreau Hall Cafeteria Tables, Student Database Hardware/Software Installation & Training	151,200
Center School Boiler Replacement	175,000
<u>Water Division</u>	
F-250 Utility Truck, F-450 Dump Truck, E-350 Van, Well Redevelopment	139,700
Total	<u>\$1,350,584</u>

Submitted by Town Administrator

Selectman Ellen Barlow moved that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,350,584 of which \$300,000 shall be transferred from free cash, \$469,884 shall be transferred from overlay surplus, \$16,000 shall be transferred from the Board of Health Food Inspection Services/Education Account, \$139,700 shall be transferred from water surplus and further that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow \$425,000 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out these projects for the purpose of meeting the capital budget needs of the Town for fiscal year 2008 as printed in your warrant.

Explanation: Requests submitted to the Capital Planning Committee totaled \$2,776,684. Although the above list does not include all requests, it funds the most critical items and is a good start in addressing the backlog of capital needs that have been deferred for several years.

Vote Required to Pass: Two-Thirds

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 23 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 24. AMEND ZONING MAP

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A, to amend the May 15, 2006 Town of Easton Zoning Map (original date: March 7, 1973) and rezone the following properties, owned by the Town of Easton, as follows:

From Residential to Municipal and Open Space.

Map/Lot	Location	Lot Size	Book/Page
R10-175	6 Excaliber Lane	40,848 SF	16229/135
R10-38C	78 Beaver Dam Road	32,909 SF	16133/220

From Industrial to Municipal and Open Space

R09-175	29 Hancock Street	211,740 SF	15041/087
R09-230	21 Hancock Street	121,740 SF	15041/087

and to accept the report of the Planning & Zoning Board in relation to this article, or take any relative action thereto.

Submitted by Conservation Commission

Selectman John Haederle moved to amend the Town of Easton, Massachusetts Zoning Map dated May 15, 2006 (Original Date: March 7, 1973) as follows: By changing the zoning of certain parcels of land now owned by the Town of Easton under the control of the Conservation Commission and described as follows to Municipal and Open Space:

- A. Lot 175 On Assessor’s Map R10 Currently Zoned Residential
- B. Lot 38C On Assessor’s Map R10 Currently Zoned Residential
- C. Lot 175 On Assessor’s Map R9 Currently Zoned Industrial
- D Lot 230 On Assessor’s Map R9 Currently Zoned Industrial

Explanation: These parcels were gifts to the Town. With this change, the zoning will reflect the actual land use.

- Vote Required to Pass: Two-Thirds
- Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended
- Finance Committee Recommendation: N/A
- Planning Board Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 24 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 25. ACCEPTANCE OF DEED OF EASEMENT – SUN TERRACE REALTY, L.L.C.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept the perpetual right and easement to enter in and upon a private way known as Sun Terrace, as shown on a certain plan entitled “Sun Terrace Residential Compound Definitive Subdivision of Land in Easton, Mass,” dated March 17, 2006, revised through October 23, 2006, prepared for Sun Terrace Realty, L.L.C., by Pilling Engineering Group, Inc., Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors, 1135 Pearl Street, Brockton, MA 02301, and recorded

with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 454, Page 45 for the purpose of maintaining and repairing the water main, line, hydrants and related structures if required by the Water Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Colleen Corona moved that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept the perpetual, non-exclusive right and easement to enter on to the private way known as Sun Terrace, as shown on a plan entitled "Sun Terrace Residential Compound Definitive Subdivision of Land in Easton, Mass.," dated March 17, 2006, revised through October 23, 2006, prepared for Sun Terrace Realty, L.L.C., by Pilling Engineering Group, Inc., Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors, 1135 Pearl Street, Brockton, MA 02301, and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 454, Page 45 for the purpose of maintaining and repairing the water main, lines, hydrants and related structures if required by the Water Department.

Explanation: This easement will give the Town the ability to enter the private way for the purpose of maintaining the water delivery system as appropriate or necessary in the determination of the Easton Water Department. The Grantor shall retain ownership of the water main, lines, hydrants and related structures.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: N/A

Planning Board Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 25 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 26. AMENDMENT TO ZONING BY LAW – COTTAGE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 40A, to amend the Zoning By Law of the Town of Easton, adopted at Town Meeting, March 27, 1973 and amended through May 15, 2006, specifically by inserting a new Section 7.16 therein, to read as follows:

7.16 Cottage Housing Development (CHD)

A. The purposes of this section are:

1. To provide a housing type that responds to changing household sizes and targets empty nesters, young couples, and single professionals.
2. To provide opportunities for ownership of small detached dwelling units within a single family neighborhood.
3. To create innovative land plans to gain an affordability advantage that is consistent with Easton's Affordable Housing Production Plan.
4. To retain and enhance Easton's strong residential character, foster strong neighborhoods, expand the range of options for detached housing and enhance affordability.
5. To encourage creation of more useable open space for the residents of the development through flexibility in density.

6. To provide guidelines to ensure compatibility with surrounding land uses.
7. To provide infill housing options in areas of Easton within a reasonable proximity to major travel ways, retail locations and business locations.
8. To provide an alternate land use not presently available in the Town of Easton resulting in a development that is the highest and best use of the subject parcel.

B. Special Permit: In a Residential or Business zone, the Planning and Zoning Board may grant a Special Permit for a Cottage Housing Development (CHD) as an alternative to conventional single family residential uses or other allowed uses. Subdivision approval pursuant to MGL, Chapter 41 is not required.

C. Type of Households.

As set forth in Section 7-16 (A), Cottage Housing Developments are intended for households with a limited number of members. Therefore, the following requirements apply:

1. No CHD dwelling unit shall contain more than two bedrooms.
2. No CHD dwelling unit shall contain more than one bedroom on the second floor.
3. Community facilities and recreational amenities, if any, shall be oriented toward an adult population and shall not include playgrounds.
4. No CHD dwelling unit shall contain a basement or attached garage.
5. CHD's in the Town of Easton shall be separated from each other by a minimum of 1,500 feet.

D. Cottage Housing Development Architectural Design Standards

A plan prepared by a registered architect or other qualified residential designer depicting representative elevations and floor plans of a CHD dwelling unit shall be submitted to the Planning and Zoning Board at the time of submission of the CHD special permit application. The design of all CHD dwelling units shall include the following features which shall be depicted on the plans submitted to the Planning & Zoning Board:

1. All CHD dwelling units shall contain a front porch consisting of a minimum of 80 square feet.
2. All CHD dwelling units shall contain roofs with exposed rafter tails.
3. All CHD dwelling units shall contain a roof on the main section of the house with a minimum slope of eight inches to twelve inches.
4. All CHD dwelling units shall contain uniform and consistent windows, exterior doors, exterior trim, exterior siding and exterior light fixtures.
5. All CHD dwelling units shall contain architectural roof shingles or wood roof shingles.
6. All CHD dwelling units shall contain rake boards that extend away from the face of the wall by a minimum of six (6) inches.
7. All CHD dwelling units shall contain exterior porch rails, fences and decorative walls of a design native to New England.
8. Walkways must be poured concrete, brick or other similar product and may not be asphalt.

E. Cottage Housing Development Landscape Design Standards

A detailed plan prepared by a registered landscape architect depicting proposed landscaping of the Common Land shall be submitted to the Planning and zoning Board at the time of submission of the CHD special permit application. Planting design shall provide for adequate buffer from all abutting properties. Trees shall be planted in hierarchies of street, shade and under-story. Shrubs shall be used to delineate various use areas and buffer private areas from common areas. The organization of the planting shall reinforce the architectural structure of the community and provide amenities of shade, buffer and color, both Spring and Fall. The following shall be contained in all landscape designs.

1. There shall be a minimum of two (2) shade trees installed within the Common Land for every one CHD dwelling unit. Each shade tree shall be a minimum 4 inch caliper and a minimum sixteen (16) feet in height.
2. There shall be two (2) flowering trees installed within the Common Land for every one CHD dwelling unit. Each flowering tree shall be a minimum two and one half (2 ½) inch caliper.
3. There shall be a minimum of three (3) evergreen trees installed within the Common Land for every one CHD dwelling unit. All evergreen trees shall be a minimum of eight (8) feet in height, full and bushy.
4. There shall be a minimum of four (4) large shrubs (rhododendron, forsythia, etc.) installed within the Common Land for every one CHD dwelling unit. Large shrubs shall be a minimum three and one half (3 ½) feet in height.
5. There shall be a minimum of four (4) small shrubs (azalea, cotoneaster, holly, etc.) installed within the Common Land for every one CHD dwelling unit. Small shrubs shall be planted at fifty (50) percent of their mature size or two and one half (2 ½) feet minimum spread.
6. Groundcovers shall be two (2) year minimum, either pots or flats.
7. There shall be a minimum of ten (10) perennial flowers installed within the Common Land for every one CHD dwelling unit. Perennial flowers shall be a minimum one (1) gallon size.

F. Cottage Housing Development General Standards

1. Permitted Uses
 - a. Land in the CHD is specifically limited to single family residential use and those accessory uses as outlined in this section 7.16.
2. Area and Dimensional Requirements
 - a. In CHDs, the permitted density shall be one CHD dwelling unit per 6,220 s.f. of lot area (7 units /acre).
 - b. The minimum lot area for a CHD shall be 65,000 s.f. of contiguous upland.
 - c. The maximum number of units in a CHD shall be 30 and the minimum number of units in a CHD shall be 10.
 - d. A CHD must have at least 40 feet of frontage on a public way.
3. Height Limit and Roof Pitch
 - a. The height limit for housing structures in a CHD shall be 18 feet.

- b. The ridge of pitched roofs with a minimum slope of eight inches to twelve inches may extend up to 25 feet in height. All parts of the roof above eighteen feet shall be pitched.
- c. Parking structures and community buildings shall not exceed 25 feet in height.
- d. All garages shall have a pitched roof design with a minimum slope of 6 inches to twelve inches.

4. 7Lot Coverage and Floor Area

- a. The maximum lot coverage permitted for all structures in a CHD shall not exceed 33 percent.
- b. The maximum first floor area for an individual CHD dwelling unit shall be as follows:
 - i. the gross floor area may not exceed 800 s.f. in 80% of the CHD units.
 - ii. areas not included in gross square footage calculations are those porches and unheated screen rooms less than 150 s.f.; garages; common buildings; interior heated areas where the ceiling height is less than 6 feet such as a second floor area under sloped roofs; and architectural projections such as bay windows, fireplaces and utility closets not greater than 18 inches in depth and 6 feet in width.
- c. The gross square foot floor area for an individual CHD dwelling unit shall not exceed either 1.75 times the area of the first floor or 999 square feet, whichever is less.
- d. The perimeter of the CHD shall have a 20 foot buffer zone from non CHD property and other than porch stairs (maximum of 2 steps), no other building components are allowed in the buffer zone. Paving for the purpose of ease in turning but not parking, may extend into the buffer zone as much as ten feet. Entry travelways may also extend into the buffer zone.

5. Yards

- a. There shall be a minimum of 10 feet between structures in a CHD. Projections may extend into the 10 foot separation as follows:
 - i. Eaves may extend up to 12 inches.
 - ii. Gutters and downspouts may extend up to 4 inches beyond the 12 inch eave extension.
 - iii. Fixtures not exceeding 5 square feet in area including but not limited to air conditioning units, gas meters, electric meters and vent pipes may extend up to the width of the fixtures.

6. Parking

- a. One indoor and one outdoor space per unit is required.
- b. Parking shall be located on the CHD property.
- c. Parking shall be screened from public streets and adjacent non CHD residential structures.
- d. Tandem parking is permitted.
- e. On street parking is permitted.

7. Number of Units Allowed

The maximum number of CHD units in the Town of Easton shall be limited to a number equivalent to 2 ½ % of the existing single family residential housing units (excluding CHD units) located in the Town of Easton. The number of single family residential housing units for the purpose of this by-law shall be established by the Board of Assessors as of January 1 of the calendar year in which the Special Permit application is filed.

8. Driveways and Utilities

All travelways, walkways, sewage facilities, drainage facilities and utilities shall be designed and constructed in compliance with the Town of Easton Site Plan Guidelines, except as specifically modified by the following design standards:

- a. The minimum paved width of primary travel areas shall be twenty-two (22) feet and eighteen (18) feet for secondary travel areas providing access to eight or less units.
- b. Exceptions to the Site Plan guidelines may be authorized by the Planning & Zoning Board in granting a special permit hereunder provided that the Board determines such exceptions are consistent with the purposes of Section A.
- c. The minimum width for walkways shall be four (4) feet.
- d. Creative drainage designs are encouraged including open drainage and recharge features.

9. Conditions

Any plan approved as a CHD shall contain the following condition:

- a. The Town of Easton shall be allowed to access the CHD for the maintenance of public utilities as appropriate.

10. Common Land

In a CHD at least 25% of the total tract area shall be set aside as common land for the use of the CHD residents and their guests. The following additional requirement shall apply:

- a. Common Land shall be planned as large contiguous parcels whenever possible. Strips or narrow parcels shall be permitted only when necessary for providing access to the Common Land and for 20 foot perimeter buffer strips or where they help promote compliance with the purposes of this Section 7-16.
- b. Common Land may be set aside in one or more parcels provided that the size and shape and location of such parcels are suitable for the designated uses.
- c. All wetland and sensitive areas.

11. Use of Common Land

- a. The Common Land shall be used for buffering, natural resource protection, recreation, community facilities, outdoor education, horticulture or for any combination of such uses. The following additional uses are also allowed:
 - i. The Common Land may be used for the construction of leaching areas associated with septic disposal systems serving the CHD, for water supply

wells serving the CHD and for drainage structures and appurtenances serving the CHD. Septic disposal easements shall be not larger than reasonably necessary. If any portion of the Common Land is used for the purpose of such leaching areas or wells, the Planning & Zoning Board shall require adequate assurances and covenants that such facilities shall be maintained by the Condominium Association within the CHD. This provision shall not be subject to the restrictions of 11(b).

ii. The Common Land may also be used for travel and access ways, pedestrian walkways, bicycle paths, parking areas and resident and emergency access to and from the Common Land and CHD units.

iii. The Common Land may be subject to easements for construction, maintenance and repair of utility and drainage facilities serving the CHD or adjacent parcels.

- b. The Common Land shall remain unbuilt upon, provided that a maximum of twenty five (25) percent of such common land may be subject to structures accessory to the primary use or uses of the CHD (such as detached garages, storage sheds, dumpster enclosures and common buildings).
- c. The proposed uses of the Common Land shall be specified on a plan and appropriate dedications and restrictions shall be implemented.

12. Ownership of the Common Land

- a. The Common Land shall be owned by the condominium or homeowners association made up of the owners of the units within the CHD or other acceptable entity. If applicable, the Planning and Zoning Board's legal counsel shall approve the form of the condominium documents creating and governing the condominium association as to form. Said documents including at a minimum, a trust and a master deed, shall be submitted to the Planning and Zoning Board at the time of submission of the CHD special permit application.

13. Site Development Standards

- a. Within the CHD adequate access shall be provided to each unit. Units need not have frontage or be adjacent to the parking areas but access shall be convenient by walkways and appropriate for residents and emergency services.
- b. To the extent possible, open space and common lands, unit siting, walkways and travelways shall be designed with due respect to existing site conditions, views, drainage paths, soils and topography.
- c. CHD units shall, to the extent possible, be situated so as to create a landscaped courtyard setting with the front of said units, to the extent possible, facing said courtyard or any common land within the CHD.
- d. All utilities shall be installed underground.
- e. The CHD shall have a 20 foot buffer zone around the entire perimeter of the development. Where possible, the buffer zone shall include natural vegetation and if not possible, new plantings, walls, fences or vegetated berms may be

used to provide a screening barrier (which need not be continuous) shall be designated on the Special Permit Plan.

- f. The hydrants and all water mains within the CHD shall be privately owned and maintained. Appropriate rights of access shall be granted to the Town of Easton for the purpose of emergency service of the water system.

G. Application Process

The Special Permit application shall contain a plan in a form and with the contents consistent with requirements of the Town of Easton Site Plan approval set forth in Section 7-10.

H. Planning and Zoning Board Action

1. In evaluating the proposed CHD, the Planning and Zoning Board shall consider the following in addition to those general conditions set forth in Section 12-7 of this By-Law.
 - a. The general purpose and objectives of this by-law.
 - b. The existing and probable future development of the property and surrounding areas.
 - c. The appropriateness of the walkways, travelways, common land and unit layout.
2. In addition to the standards set forth in section 12-7 (B), the SPGA shall consider whether the CHD:
 - a. Complies with the requirements of this Section 7-16, other applicable requirements of the Zoning By-Laws and any regulations and guidelines promulgated thereto.
 - b. Is consistent with the purposes stated in section 7-16 (A).
 - c. Is in harmony with the existing and probable future uses of the area and with the character of the surrounding area and neighborhood.

I. Change of plans after granting of Special Permit

Minor changes may be made to the approved plans with the consent of the Planning and Zoning Board, and without requiring a public hearing. Major modifications or substantial changes shall require a new or amended Special Permit and site plan approval.

- J. The Planning and Zoning Board shall be the Special Permit Granting Authority (SPGA) for this Cottage Housing Development By-Law.
- K. The Planning and Zoning Board shall establish, and from time to time amend, regulations for the administration of this Section 7.16, including a schedule of filing fees to cover the costs of processing and engineering review by Town personnel, and review fees to cover the cost of expert technical review by outside consultants.

And to accept the report of the Planning and Zoning Board in relation to this Article, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Planning and Zoning Board

Selectman Charles King move to amend the Town of Easton Zoning By-Law by adding a new section 7.16, Cottage Housing Development as printed in your warrant, with the following amendments:

- Omit the number “7” in front of the word “Lot” in the heading for section F.(4).
- Add at the end of section F.(10)(c)the following: “... shall be a part of the Common Land.”

Explanation: This Article proposes an innovative new Zoning ByLaw that will provide a detached housing option that responds to decreasing household size in the Town of Easton and Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This ByLaw will provide a housing option that is affordable to households earning median income, including children of Easton residents and Easton employees, that is not currently available in the Town. It provides the Planning and Zoning Board with a tool to facilitate developments displaying innovative designs resulting in a housing type consistent with Easton’s housing production plan and Easton’s strong residential neighborhood character. The By Law includes strict architectural and landscape standards to ensure quality and compatibility with surrounding land uses and provides a limited number of units in areas of Easton within a reasonable proximity to major travel ways, retail locations and business locations resulting in a development that is the highest and best use of the subject parcel. Cottage Housing Developments require approval by Special Permit from the Planning and Zoning Board.

Vote Required to Pass: Two-Thirds

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

**Finance Committee Recommendation: Referred recommendation to the
Planning Board**

Planning Board Recommendation: Recommended

A further amendment to change section F.(10) (c) by changing the word “wetland” to “resources under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission of the Town of Easton” was VOTED.

ARTICLE 26 TOWN MEETING ACTION: THE MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED WAS NOT A VOTE (DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR ON A STANDING VOTE).

A motion to RECONSIDER Article 26 was NOT A VOTE.

ARTICLE 27. AMENDMENT OF ZONING BYLAW SECTION 9-2 NON CONFORMING USES, STRUCTURES AND LOTS – EXTENSION & ALTERATION

To see if the Town will vote to amend the zoning bylaw of the Town of Easton by deleting section 9-2 in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

9.2. EXTENSION AND ALTERATION

- A. Any lawful pre-existing nonconforming structure or use may be continued although not conforming with the provisions of this By-law

until abandonment, but no such lawful pre-existing nonconforming structure or use shall be changed, intensified, extended, altered or enlarged in any manner, with the exception of such changes as allowed by Sub Section 9-2.B. and 9-2.C., until all of the following steps have been accomplished:

1. Applicant to submit letter with attached documentation outlining differences including, if necessary, plans to the Board of Appeals.
 2. Public hearing is held by the Board of Appeals.
 3. Special Permit is issued by the Board of Appeals pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 40A, Section 6.
- B. The Building Inspector may issue a building permit for an extension, reconstruction or alteration to a lawfully pre-existing, nonconforming single family or two family residential structure under the following circumstances:
1. The reconstruction, extension or alteration of the structure complies with the current setbacks and building height requirements; or
 2. The reconstruction, extension or alteration to any side or face of a structure that does not comply with a current setback requirement, where the reconstruction, extension or alteration will not result in a decrease in the distance between any lot line and the nearest point of the structure; or
 3. The reconstruction, extension or alteration will not extend beyond the existing footprint of the structure, provided that the structure will comply with current building height requirements.
- C. A lawfully pre-existing, nonconforming single family or two family residential structure which is destroyed by fire or other natural disaster may be rebuilt or replaced as a matter of right within pre-existing footprint and height of the residential structure, or within an area and height which conforms with the dimensional requirements of the Town of Easton Zoning By-law.
- D. The reconstruction, extension, alteration or structural change of a valid pre-existing nonconforming structure in such a manner as to create a new nonconformity, shall require the issuance of a variance from the Board of Appeals.

And to accept the report of the Planning and Zoning Board in relation to this Article, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Appeals

Selectman Irwin Cohen moved to amend the Town Of Easton Zoning ByLaw adopted at Town Meeting March 27, 1973 and including amendments through May 15, 2006

by deleting Section 9-2 in its entirety and substitution in lieu thereof the new Section as presented in the Warrant.

Explanation: In general, no lawful Pre-Existing, Non-Conforming Structure or Use can be changed without the issuance of a Special Permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals. However, the Building Inspector can now issue a Building Permit for the Extension, Reconstruction, Alteration to a Lawful, Pre-Existing, Non-Conforming Single Family and Two Family Residential Structure if the change complies with the current setbacks and building height requirements, will not result in a decrease in the distance between any lot line, and not extend beyond the existing footprint of the structure. This change would also eliminate the required letter from the Planning & Zoning Board being sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals within the fourteen (14) days currently required by Section 12-8 B (2) of the Easton Zoning By Law. If Town Meeting approves Article 29, the Planning & Zoning Board seeks approval of Article 30 which is related to an extended time frame for review comments.

Vote Required to Pass: Two-Thirds

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: N/A

Planning Board Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 27 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 28. AMENDMENT OF ZONING BYLAW SECTION 12-8B(2) **ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT- OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the zoning bylaw of the Town of Easton by deleting section 12-8B (2) in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

B.2. An interoffice memorandum, prepared by the Board of Appeals, shall be sent to the Planning and Zoning Board, Board of Selectmen, Board of Health, Building Inspector, DPW, Police Department, Conservation Commission and Historical Commission outlining in general the respective appeal, request or petition to enable the various departments to adequately review and comment. Said memo to be sent to various departments at least thirty (30) days prior to the hearing. Departments not responding prior to the hearing shall be deemed to have no objection to the application.

And to accept the report of the Planning and Zoning Board in relation to this Article, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Appeals

Selectman Ellen Barlow moved to amend the Town of Easton Zoning ByLaw adopted at Town Meeting March 27, 1973 and including amendments through May 15, 2006, by deleting Section 12-8 B. 2. in its entirety and substitution in lieu thereof the new Section as presented in the Warrant.

Explanation: The memorandum sent by the Zoning Board of Appeals to Town departments requesting review comments is now sent thirty (30) days prior to the respective Public Hearing instead of fourteen (14) days.

Vote Required to Pass: Two-Thirds
Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended
Finance Committee Recommendation: N/A
Planning Board Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 28 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 29. AMENDMENT OF DEMOLITION REVIEW BYLAW

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 114 of the Code of the Town of Easton, in the following respect:

Please note that all proposed amendments appear in **bold** type and are underlined. Proposed deletions appear in **bold** type and are [bracketed].

§114-3 Procedure

A. No demolition permit for a building that is in whole or in part seventy-five (75) or more years old shall be issued without following the provisions of this bylaw. If a building is of unknown age, it shall be assumed that the building is over 75 years old for the purposes of this bylaw.

B. An applicant proposing to demolish a building subject to this bylaw shall file with the Building Inspector an application containing the following information:

- The address of the building to be demolished.
- The owner's name, addresses and telephone number.
- A brief description of the proposed reuse, reconstruction or replacement.
- A photograph or photograph(s) of the building and photos of neighboring buildings (for context).

The Building Inspector shall within seven (7) business days of his receipt of a completed demolition permit application, forward a copy of the application to the Commission. No demolition permit shall be issued at that time.

The Commission shall, within fifteen (15) business days after receipt of the application, make a determination of whether the building is significant.

Upon determination by the Commission that the building is not significant, the Commission shall so notify the Building Inspector and applicant in writing. The Building Inspector may then issue the demolition permit.

Upon determination by the Commission that the building is significant, the Commission shall so notify the Building Inspector and applicant in writing with reasons for the determination. No demolition permit may be issued at this time. If the Commission does not notify the Building Inspector within the specified time period, the Building Inspector may issue the demolition permit.

If the Commission finds that the building is significant, it shall hold a public hearing within thirty (30) days of the written notification to the Building Inspector. Public notice of the time, place and purpose of the hearing shall be posted in a conspicuous place in

town hall for a period of not less than seven (7) days prior to the date of said hearing, and the applicant and Building Inspector shall be notified in writing of the meeting time and place.

The Commission shall decide at the public hearing or within fourteen (14) days after the public hearing whether the building should be preferably preserved. If agreed to in writing by the applicant, the determination of the Commission may be postponed. If agreed to in writing by the applicant, the public hearing may be continued at a later date.

If the Commission determines that the building is not preferably preserved, the Commission shall so notify the Building Inspector and applicant in writing. The Building Inspector may then issue the demolition permit.

If the Commission determines that the building is preferably preserved, the Commission shall notify the Building Inspector and applicant in writing. No demolition permit may be issued for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of the notification unless otherwise agreed to by the Commission. If the Commission does not notify the Building Inspector within twenty-one (21) days of the public hearing, the Building Inspector may issue the demolition permit.

No permit for demolition of a building determined to be preferably preserved shall be granted until all plans for future use and development of the site have been filed with the Building Inspector and have been found to comply with all laws pertaining to the issuance of a building permit or, if for a parking lot, a certificate of occupancy for that site. All approvals necessary for the issuance of such building permit or certificate of occupancy including without limitation any necessary zoning variances or special permits, must be granted and all appeals from the granting of such approvals must be concluded, prior to the issuance of a demolition permit under this section.

The Building Inspector may issue a demolition permit or building permit for a preferably preserved building within twelve (12) months if the Commission notifies the Building Inspector in writing that the commission finds that the intent and purpose of this bylaw is served even with the issuance of the demolition permit or the building permit.

Following the twelve-month delay period, the Building Inspector may issue the demolition permit.

§114-6 Enforcement and Remedies

The Commission and/or the Building Inspector are each specifically authorized to institute any and all actions and proceedings, in law or equity, as they may deem necessary and appropriate to obtain compliance with the requirements of this bylaw or to prevent a threatened violation thereof.

Any owner of a building demolished without first obtaining a demolition permit in accordance with the provisions of this bylaw shall be subject to a fine of **[not more than]** Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00). Each day the violation exists shall constitute a separate offense until a faithful restoration of the demolished building is completed, or unless otherwise agreed to by the Commission. **This penalty may be enforced pursuant to Chapter 50 of the Code of the Town of Easton, Noncriminal Disposition of Violations.**

If a building is demolished without first obtaining a demolition permit, no building permit shall be issued for a period of two (2) years from the date of the demolition on the subject parcel of land or any adjoining parcels of land under common ownership and control unless otherwise agreed to by the Commission.

Submitted by Historical Commission

Selectman John Haederle **moved that the Town vote to amend Chapter 114 of the Code of the Town of Easton, as printed in your warrant.**

Explanation: The Easton Historic Commission has requested some minor revisions to the existing bylaw that concern notification procedures. These changes are designed to clarify the process for anyone subject to the by-law.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 29 TOWN MEETING ACTION: VOTED.

ARTICLE 30. TRANSFER OF LAND FOR LIBRARY PARKING LOT

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court to enact the following special legislation for the Town of Easton:

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF EASTON TO LEASE A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, and specifically exempting the lease from the provisions of chapter 30B of the General Laws, the town of Easton may lease a certain parcel of land to the Ames Free Library of Easton, Inc., a corporation duly organized pursuant to the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, for a term not to exceed 50 years, for the purpose of constructing parking facilities associated with the operation of the Ames Free Library. The parcel is identified on Assessor's Map 16U, Lot 161 and contains 47,629 square feet of land, more or less and is also shown as Lot 3 on a plan of land entitled "SHAKESPEARE GLEN, Definitive Subdivision, Plan of Land in Easton, Mass. Scale 40 feet to an inch July 27, 1985 Ernest W. Branch, Inc., Civil Engineers Munroe Building, 1245 Hancock St. Quincy Revised: August 21, 1985 September 4, 1985" recorded at the Bristol Northern District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 348, Pages 62-64, together with all the rights, titles and interests of Lots 5 and 6 shown on the aforesaid plan in Theater Way.

SECTION 2. The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Easton may determine the terms and conditions of such lease as they determine to be in the best interests of the town provided that the terms of the lease include, but not be limited to, that the number of

parking spaces to be located on the parcel be limited to no more than 35, that the lease contain provisions for the protection, preservation, maintenance, stewardship, renovation and restoration of that portion of the property known as the Estate Garden Park subject to the approval of the Easton Historical Commission and that public access to Estate Garden Park be provided.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

or take any action relative thereto. The General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Colleen Corona **moved to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court to enact the following special legislation for the Town of Easton, as printed in your warrant.**

Explanation: The Ames Free Library / Easton's Public Library is beginning an 18 month restoration project that will include, in addition to the complete conservation of the historic building, a re-function of the ground floor space for Library services, universal access including an elevator and accessible entrance and improvements to safety concerns for pedestrians and vehicles. The Library needs additional space on which to construct a parking area west of the building for approximately 35 cars to reduce the dependence on street parking. The Library will assume the cost of parking construction with private funds. The parking area is considered public and available for use by visitors to the Oakes Ames Memorial Hall and the historic gardens.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 30 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

As explained earlier in the meeting, the following articles 31 to 62 were all taken together with one motion made by Selectman Colleen Corona to accept (Individual Street names were read by Moderator Dailey) as printed in the Warrant. All these streets have been approved by the DPW, Board of Selectmen and the Planning and Zoning Board. There were no holds on any street.

ARTICLES 31 TO 62 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 31. STREET ACCEPTANCE – LILAC LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, LILAC LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 6+14.18 as shown on a plan entitled “Chestnut Farms” drafted by Ribelin Land Surveys, Inc., dated February 6, 1998 as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on January 13, 1999 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 387, Pages 3 and 4; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept from Zarba, Lemoie, and Seyhandler, a drainage easement across Lots 2 and 3 containing 32,664 square feet and to accept from from Calisi and Seyhandler a 20 foot wide utility easement along the shared property line between Lots 3 and 4 containing 9,855 square feet, all as shown on the “Chestnut Farms” Definitive Subdivision Plan and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL c. 40, 3 and 14 to accept from Berardi, Calisi, Hayes, Perry and Seyhandler, the deed of a fee interest in said LILAC LANE, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 32. STREET ACCEPTANCE – BARBERRY LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, BARBERRY LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82 from Station 0+11 to Station 1+92.96 as shown on a plan of land entitled “Chestnut Farms” drafted by Ribelin Land Surveys, Inc., dated February 6, 1998 as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on January 13, 1999 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 387, Pages 3 and 4; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept a from Zarba, Lemoie, and Seyhandler, drainage easement across Lots 2 and 3 containing 32,664 square feet, as shown on the previously referenced “Chestnut Farms” Definitive Subdivision Plan; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL c. 40, 3 and 14, to accept from Perry and Seyhandler, the deed of a fee interest in said BARBERRY LANE, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 33. STREET ACCEPTANCE – JENNIFER WAY

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, JENNIFER WAY, as a public way, pursuant to MGL c. 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 3+11.42 as shown on a plan entitled “Jennifer Estates Definitive Subdivision Plan of Land in Easton, MA,” drafted by K & Assoc. / LAN-COM, Inc., dated March 24, 2000 as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on June 28, 2000 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 405, Pages 25 & 26; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an easement deed, pursuant to MGL c. 40, 3 and 14, for a drain easement containing 12,359 square feet, and a 20 foot wide utility easement containing 855 square feet; as shown on the “Jennifer Estates Definitive Subdivision Plan of Land in Easton, MA” and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL c. 40, 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in said way, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 34. STREET ACCEPTANCE – CANOE RIVER ROAD

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, Canoe River Road, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 16+42.68 as shown on a plan of land entitled "Canoe River Estates Definitive Subdivision of Land in Easton, MA,"" drafted by DMG Engineering, dated January 26, 1990, as approved by the Planning Board on December 5, 1990 and revised to September 19, 1990, and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 325, Page 44 and on a plan of land entitled "Corrective Revisions Canoe River Estates Definitive Subdivision of land in Easton, MA," drafted by Youngquist, James and Associates, Inc., dated May 28, 1992, and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 325, Page 44 et seq and on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Easton, Mass drafted by Youngquist James and Associates, dated February 12, 1996" and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 355, Page 49 and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easement deeds, pursuant to MGL c. 40, 3 and 14, as follows:

1. A Drainage and Utilities Easement on Lot 15 containing 8686 +/- square feet, and a more fully described as follows:
BEGINNING on the Westerly sideline of Canoe River Road at PK nail being the most Easterly point of lot 15, THENCE N 57 Degrees – 45' - 03" W, 75.00 feet to a concrete bound, THENCE S 51 Degrees- 42'-34" W, 105.00 feet to a concrete bound, THENCE S 56 Degrees-04'-07"E, 100 feet to a PK nail on the Westerly sideline of Canoe River Road, THENCE N 34 Degrees-49'-18" E, 60.00 feet to a concrete bound, THENCE Northeasterly, 42.57 feet along a curve to the right having a radius of 247.50 feet to a PK nail being the point of beginning, the last two courses being along the Westerly sideline of Canoe River Road,

all as shown on the previously referenced plans and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL c. 40, 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in said Canoe River Road, and a 72,037 square foot parcel of land shown as Lot 16 on the aforementioned plans and more fully described as follows: or take any other action thereto.

BEGINNING on the Westerly sideline of Canoe River Road at a PK nail being the most Southerly point of Lot 16, THENCE N 57 Degrees – 45' - 03" W, 261.38 feet to a concrete bound, THENCE N 50 Degrees- 35' - 46" W, 321.32 feet to a concrete bound, THENCE S 37 Degrees-22'-15" E, 270 feet to a concrete bound, THENCE S 27 Degrees- 58'-32" E, 19.61 feet to a concrete bound being a point of curvature on the Westerly sideline of Canoe River Road, THENCE Southwesterly, 9.98 feet along a curve to the left having a radius of 247.50 feet to a concrete bound being a point of tangency, THENCE S 63 Degrees- 57'-34" W, 141.32 feet to a PK nail being a point of curvature, THENCE Southwesterly, 78.98 feet along a curve to the left having a radius of 247.50 feet to a PK nail being the point of beginning,

The last three courses being along the Westerly sideline of Canoe River Road,

Said Lot 16 contains 72,037 square feet, more or less and is shown on a Plan Of Land in Easton, Mass. Dated November 10, 1992, Prepared by Youngquist, James & Associates, Inc., Recorded in Bristol County Northern Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 326, Page 79

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 35. STREET ACCEPTANCE – SANDSTONE DRIVE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, Sandstone Drive, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 13+00.89 all as shown on a plan of land entitled “Canoe River Estates Definitive Subdivision of Land in Easton, MA,” drafted by DMG Engineering, dated January 26, 1990, as approved by the Planning Board on December 5, 1990 and revised to September 19, 1990, and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 325, Page 44 and on a plan of land entitled “Corrective Revisions Canoe River Estates Definitive Subdivision of Land in Easton, MA,”; drafted by Youngquist, James and Associates, Inc., dated May 28, 1992, and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 325, Page 44 et seq and on a plan entitled “Plan of Land in Easton, Mass drafted by Youngquist, James and Associates, dated February 12, 1996” and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 355, Page 49 and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easement deeds, pursuant to MGL c. 40, 3 and 14, as follows:

1. A Drainage and Utilities Easement Across Lots 6 and 7A containing 25,351 +/- square feet, more fully described as follows:

BEGINNING on the Southerly sideline of Sandstone Drive at a PK nail on Lot 6, THENCE S 10 Degrees-09'-25" W, 277.32 feet to a concrete bound, THENCE N 79 Degrees-11'-28" W, 233.76 feet to a concrete bound, the last course bounded by Lot 6 and Lot 7A, THENCE N 02 Degrees-10'-00" E, 91.03 feet, the last course bounded by Lot 7A and Lot 8A, THENCE S 79 Degrees-11'-28" E, 226.41 feet to a concrete bound, the last course bounded by Lot 8A and Lot 7A, THENCE N 10 Degrees-09'-25" E, 187.09 feet to a PK nail on the Southerly Sideline of Sandstone Drive, THENCE 79 Degrees-50'-53" E, 20.00 feet to the point of beginning, the last course being along the Southerly sideline of Sandstone Drive and Lot 7A and Lot 6.

2. A Access and Utilities Easement across Lots 7A and 8A containing 7,130 +/- square feet, and more fully described as follows:

BEGINNING on the Westerly sideline of Sandstone Drive at a concrete bound on Lot 7A, THENCE S 65 Degrees-38'-27" W. 158.57 feet to a concrete bound, the last course bounded by Lot 7A and 8A, THENCE N 02 Degrees-10'-00" E, 55.88 feet to a concrete bound, THENCE N 65 Degrees-38'-27" E, 133.58 feet to a PK nail on the Westerly sideline of Sandstone Drive, THENCE Southerly 51.57 feet along a curve to the left having a radius of 60.00 feet to the point of beginning,

The last course bounded by Lot 8A and Lot 7A

Said Access and Utility Easement contain 7,130 square feet, more or less

all as shown on the previously referenced plans and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL c. 40, 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in said Sandstone Drive, or take any other action thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 36. STREET ACCEPTANCE - CHICKADEE LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, CHICKADEE LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 5+08.11 as shown on a PLAN OF LAND ENTITLED QUAIL RIDGE EXTENSION DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION PLAN OF LAND IN EASTON, MA, DRAFTED BY K & ASSOCIATES/LAN-COM, INC., DATED APRIL 3, 1995, as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on January 21, 1996, and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 354, Pages 14-17, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easements, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14 as follows: drainage and water easement containing 15,753 square feet on Lot 22 and drainage & water easement containing 14,037 square feet on Lot 21 as shown on the previously referenced PLAN OF LAND IN EASTON, MA and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, to accept the Deed of a Fee Interest in CHICKADEE LANE, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 37. STREET ACCEPTANCE - KERRY LANE EXTENSION

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, KERRY LANE EXTENSION, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 3+72.9, as shown on a PLAN OF LAND ENTITLED QUAIL RIDGE DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION PLAN OF LAND IN EASTON, MA, DRAFTED BY ERNEST W. BRANCH, INC., DATED MARCH 5, 1993 as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on June 30, 1993, and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 330, Pages 41-47, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easements pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14 as follows: utility easement containing 200 square feet across Lot 18 as shown on the previously referenced QUAIL RIDGE SUBDIVISION PLAN OF LAND IN EASTON, MA, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, to accept the Deed of a Fee Interest in KERRY LANE EXTENSION, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 38. STREET ACCEPTANCE - DEER RUN ROAD

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, DEER RUN ROAD, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 15+20.74, as shown on a PLAN OF LAND ENTITLED QUAILRIDGE DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION PLAN OF LAND IN EASTON, MA, DRAFTED BY ERNEST W. BRANCH, INC., DATED MARCH 5, 1993, as approved by the Planning & Zoning

Board on June 30, 1993, and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 330, Pages 41-4, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easements pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14 as follows: utility easement across Lot 12, containing 221 square feet and drainage easement across Lot 7 containing 9,097 square feet and drainage easement across Lot 8 containing 8,910 square feet, and utility easement containing 321 square feet across Lot 5 and drainage easement containing 2.10 acres on Lot 22 and utility easement across Lot 10 containing 2,025 square feet as shown on the previously referenced QUAIL RIDGE PLAN OF LAND IN EASTON, MA, and further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, 3 and 14, to accept the Deed of a Fee Interest in DEER RUN ROAD, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 39. STREET ACCEPTANCE - QUAIL LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, QUAIL LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 8+06.74 as shown on a PLAN OF LAND ENTITLED QUAIL RIDGE DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION PLAN OF LAND IN EASTON, MA, DRAFTED BY ERNEST W. BRANCH, INC., DATED MARCH 5, 1993 as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on June 30, 1993, and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 330, Pages 41-47 and to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, to accept the Deed of a Fee Interest in said way, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 40. STREET ACCEPTANCE - HICKORY LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, HICKORY LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 3+00 as shown on a plan entitled "EASTON WOODS DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION OF LAND IN EASTON, MA drafted by HAYWARD, BOYNTON & WILLIAMS, dated April 16, 1986, revised through July 22, 1986, as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on April 18, 1987 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 250, Page 58; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easement deeds, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, as follows: existing 20 ft. wide drainage easement across the "Open Space" area, as shown on the plan entitled "AS-BUILT PLAN AND PROFILE OF "MAGNOLIA WAY" & "HICKORY LANE" IN EASTON, BRISTOL CO., MASS" and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14 to accept the deed of a fee interest in HICKORY LANE, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 41. STREET ACCEPTANCE - CRABAPPLE LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, CRABAPPLE LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 3+50 as shown on a plan entitled "EASTON WOODS DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION OF LAND IN EASTON, MA" drafted by HAYWARD, BOYNTON & WILLIAMS, dated

April 16, 1986, revised through July 22, 1986, as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on April 18, 1987 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 250, Page 58; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easement deeds, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, as follows: drainage easement across Lots 13 and 14, as shown on the plan entitled "AS-BUILT PLAN AND PROFILE OF "CRABAPPLE LANE" IN EASTON, BRISTOL CO., MASS. " and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14 to accept the deed of a fee interest in CRABAPPLE LANE, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 42. STREET ACCEPTANCE - TAMARACK LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, TAMARACK LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 4+00 as shown on a plan entitled "EASTON WOODS DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION OF LAND IN EASTON, MA", drafted by HAYWARD, BOYNTON & WILLIAMS, dated April 16, 1986, and revised through July 22, 1986, as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on April 18, 1987 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 250, Page 58; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an easement deed, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, as follows: existing 20 ft. wide drainage easement across Lot 26, as known on the plan entitled "AS- BUILT PLAN AND PROFILE OF "HEMLOCK LANE" & "TAMARACK LANE", and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in TAMARACK LANE, or take any other action thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 43. STREET ACCEPTANCE - DOGWOOD LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, DOGWOOD LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 3+21.81 as shown on a plan entitled "EASTON WOODS DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION OF LAND IN EASTON, MA" drafted by HAYWARD, BOYNTON & WILLIAMS, dated April 16, 1986, revised through July 22, 1986, as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on April 18, 1987 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 250, Page 58; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an easement deed, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest for DOGWOOD LANE, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 44. STREET ACCEPTANCE - HEMLOCK LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, HEMLOCK LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 4+92.65 as shown on a plan entitled "EASTON WOODS DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION OF LAND IN EASTON, MA" drafted by HAYWARD, BOYNTON & WILLIAMS, dated April 16, 1986, revised through July 22, 1986, as approved by the Planning and Zoning Board on April 18, 1987 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 250, Page 58; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen

pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest for HEMLOCK LANE, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 45. STREET ACCEPTANCE - MAGNOLIA WAY

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, MAGNOLIA WAY, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 4+70.95 as shown on a plan entitled "EASTON WOODS DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION OF LAND IN EASTON, MA" drafted by HAYWARD, BOYNTON & WILLIAMS, dated April 16, 1986 revised through July 22, 1986, as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on April 18 1987 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 250, Page 58; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easement deeds, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, as follows: existing 20 ft. wide drainage easement across the "Open Space" area as shown on the plan entitled "AS-BUILT PLAN AND PROFILE OF "MAGNOLIA WAY & HICKORY LANE" IN EASTON, BRISTOL CO., MASS" and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14 to accept the deed of a fee interest in MAGNOLIA WAY, said way, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 46. STREET ACCEPTANCE - BUTTONBUSH DRIVE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, BUTTONBUSH DRIVE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 3+50 as shown on a plan entitled "EASTON WOODS DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION OF LAND IN EASTON, MA" drafted by HAYWARD, BOYNTON & WILLIAMS, dated April 16, 1986, revised through July 22, 1986, as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on April 18, 1987 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 250, Page 58; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easement deeds, pursuant to MGL c. 40, sec. 3 and 14, as follows: existing 20' wide easement for water main on the southerly side of Buttonbush Drive and Balsam Lane, drain easement on the westerly side of Buttonbush Drive, containing 1000 square feet, existing 20' wide easement for water main on the southerly side of Buttonbush Drive, water and drain easement on the southerly side of Buttonbush Drive, 5' wide access & utility easement running alongside Buttonbush Drive, all of said easements being located on the "Open Space" area as shown on the plan entitled "AS-BUILT PLAN AND PROFILE OF BUTTONBUSH DRIVE IN EASTON, BRISTOL CO., MASS." and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL c. 40, sec. 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in BUTTONBUSH DRIVE, or take any other action thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 47. STREET ACCEPTANCE - BALSAM LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, BALSAM LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 3+23 as shown on a plan of land entitled "EASTON WOODS DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION

OF LAND IN EASTON, MA” drafted by HAYWARD, BOYNTON & WILLIAMS, dated April 16, 1986, revised through July 22, 1986, as approved by the Planning and Zoning Board on April 18, 1987 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 250, Page 58; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easement deeds, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, as follows: “existing 20 ft. wide drainage easement across Lots 9 and 10, as shown on the plan entitled “AS-BUILT PLAN AND PROFILE OF “BALSAM LANE & JUNIPER LANE” IN EASTON, BRISTOL CO, MASS.” And, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest for BALSAM LANE, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 48. STREET ACCEPTANCE - JUNIPER LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, JUNIPER LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 3+15.83 as shown on a plan of land entitled “EASTON WOODS DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION OF LAND IN EASTON, MA”, drafted by HAYWARD, BOYNTON & WILLIAMS, dated April 16, 1986, revised through July 22, 1986, as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on April 18, 1987 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 250, Page 58; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, sec. 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in JUNIPER LANE, or take any other action thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 49. STREET ACCEPTANCE - SCARLET COURT

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, subject to the Town’s receipt of a satisfactory as built plan as well as installation of concrete bounds and fire alarm box as per plan, Scarlet Court from Station 0+00 to Station 4+23 as shown on a plan of land “As-Built Plan of Scarlet Court” Drafted by Hutchins-Trowbridge Associates, Inc., 200 Chauncy St. Mansfield, MA dated 8-2-2006 or take an other action relative thereto

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 50. STREET ACCEPTANCE - ACORN ROAD

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, subject to the Town’s receipt of a satisfactory as built plan as well as installation of concrete bounds and fire alarm box as per plan, Acorn Road, from Station 0+00 to Station 12+74.98 as shown on a plan of land entitled “As-Built Plan of Acorn Road” drafted by Hutchins-Trowbridge Associates, Inc., 200 Chauncy Street; Mansfield, MA dated 8-2-2006 or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 51. STREET ACCEPTANCE - FOREST EDGE ROAD

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, FOREST EDGE ROAD, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to

Station 22+64.84 as shown on a plan entitled "DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION PLAN OF 'MILESTONE ACRES' IN EASTON, BRISTOL COUNTY, MASS", March 28, 1995 drafted by LAND SURVEYS INCORPORATED, dated March 28, 1995, as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on May 8, 1996 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 355, Page 52; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easement deeds, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, as follows: existing drainage easement across Lots 1 and 3, drainage easement across Lots 5 and 6, drainage easement across Lots 9 and 10, drainage easement across Lots 15, 16, and 17, existing 45 ft. drainage and access easement across Lot 17, and existing drainage easement across Lot 18, all of said easements as shown on the plan entitled 'ROADWAY AS-BUILT PLAN AND PROFILE OF FOREST EDGE ROAD, EASTON, MA" prepared by GALLAGHER ENGINEERING dated October 14, 2005 and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in FOREST EDGE ROAD, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 52. STREET ACCEPTANCE - MILESTONE ROAD

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, MILESTONE ROAD, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 4+28.71 as shown on a plan entitled "DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION PLAN OF 'MILESTONE ACRES' IN EASTON, BRISTOL COUNTY, MASS, March 28, 1995, drafted by LAND SURVEYS INCORPORATED, dated March 28, 1995, as approved by the Planning and Zoning Board on May 8, 1996 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 355, Page 52; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easement deeds, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, as follows: as shown on the DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION PLAN OF MILESTONE ACRES, and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14 to accept the deed of a fee interest in MILESTONE ROAD, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 53. STREET ACCEPTANCE - SAWMILL LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street SAWMILL LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from station 0+00 to station 5+50.94 as shown on a plan of land entitled "DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION PLAN OF MILESTONE ACRES IN EASTON, BRISTOL COUNTY, MASS. drafted by LAND SURVEYS INCORPORATED, dated March 28, 1995, as approved by the Planning and Zoning Board on May 8, 1996 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 355, Page 52; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easement deeds, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, as follows: as shown on the DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION PLAN OF MILESTONE ACRES, and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14 to accept the deed of a fee interest in SAWMILL LANE, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 54. STREET ACCEPTANCE - CRYSTAL LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, CRYSTAL LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 4+43.23, as shown on a subdivision plan of land entitled ROCKLAND BAY ESTATES, DRAFTED BY ERNEST W. BRANCH, INC., DATED MAY 16, 1991 as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on May 10, 1995 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 346, Pages 19-27 and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an easement deed, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, to accept the Deed of a Fee Interest in said CRYSTAL LANE, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 55. STREET ACCEPTANCE - FAIRFIELD DRIVE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, FAIRFIELD DRIVE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 29+76.40 as shown on a PLAN OF LAND ENTITLED ROCKLAND BAY ESTATES DRAFTED BY ERNEST W. BRANCH, INC., DATED MAY 16, 1991 as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on May 10, 1995, and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 346, Pages 19-27, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easements pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14 as follows: water easement containing 15,288 square feet across Lot 1C, and drainage and water easement across Open Space Parcel 2 containing 21.01 acres, and drainage and water easement across Open space Parcel 1A containing 4.47 acres, and drainage easement across Open Space Parcel 1B containing 1.57 acres as shown on the previously referenced ROCKLAND BAY SUBDIVISION PLAN OF LAND IN EASTON, MA, and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, to accept the Deed of a Fee Interest in FAIRFIELD DRIVE, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 56. STREET ACCEPTANCE - SANDY POND LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, SANDY POND LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 4+91.68, as shown on a SUBDIVISION PLAN OF LAND ENTITLED ROCKLAND BAY ESTATES DRAFTED BY ERNEST W. BRANCH, INC., DATED MAY 16, 1991, as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on May 10, 1991 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 346, Pages 19-27, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easements pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, as follows: drainage easement across Lot 29 containing 2,015 square feet and drainage easement across Lot 30 containing 2,015 square feet, as shown on the previously referenced subdivision plan of land in EASTON, MA , and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14 to accept the Deed of a Fee Interest in SANDY POND LANE, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 57. STREET ACCEPTANCE - FORBES LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, FORBES LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 3+13.28 as shown on a plan entitled "FORBES LANE DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION PLAN OF LAND IN EASTON, MASSACHUSETTS, DRAFTED BY K & ASSOCIATES, LAN – COM, INC. , DATED 1/17/96, as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on May 22, 1996 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 355, Pages 19-22, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easements, pursuant to MGL chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14 as follows: for a drainage easement across Open Space Parcel 1A containing 1,661 square feet and drainage easement on Lot B1 containing 511 square feet as shown on the previously referenced "FORBES LANE SUBDIVISION PLAN OF LAND IN EASTON, MA and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, to accept the Deed of a Fee Interest in FORBES LANE, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 58. STREET ACCEPTANCE - DALTON CIRCLE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, DALTON CIRCLE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 4+05.69, as shown on a plan entitled "SUBDIVISION PLAN OF LAND ENTITLED DALTON CIRCLE", drafted by K 7 ASSOCIATES/LAN-COM, INC., DATED SEPTEMBER 15, 1995, as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on May 22, 1996 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 355, Page 23, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, to accept the Deed of a Fee Interest in DALTON CIRCLE, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 59. STREET ACCEPTANCE - WATERBURY LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, WATERBURY LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 5+49, as shown on a plan entitled "SUBDIVISION PLAN OF LAND ENTITLED ROCKLAND BAY ESTATES DRAFTED BY ERNEST W. BRANCH, INC., DATED MARY 16, 1991, as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on May 10, 1995 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 346, Pages 19-27 and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easements, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14 as follows: drainage easement across Lot 22 containing 1,825 square feet and drainage easement across Lot 21 containing 1,839 square feet, as shown on the previously referenced Subdivision Plan of Land in EASTON, MA, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, to accept the Deed of a Fee Interest in WATERBURY LANE, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 60. STREET ACCEPTANCE - AMBER LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, AMBER LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL CHAPTER 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 2+20, as shown on a plan entitled SUBDIVISION PLAN OF LAND ENTITLED ROCKLAND BAY ESTATES, DRAFTED BY ERNEST W. BRANCH, INC., DATED MAY 16, 1991, as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on May 10, 1995 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 346, Pages 19-27, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easements, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, as follows: water easement across Lot 2 containing 1,504 square feet and water easement across Lot 3 containing 1,542 square feet as shown on the previously referenced subdivision plan of land in Easton, MA and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14 to accept the deed of a fee interest in AMBER LANE, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 61. STREET ACCEPTANCE - QUARRY LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, QUARRY LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 5+36.65 as shown on a "SUBDIVISION PLAN OF LAND ENTITLED ROCKLAND BAY ESTATES", DRAFTED BY ERNEST W. BRANCH, INC., DATED MAY 16, 1991, as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on May 10, 1995 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 346, Pages 19-27 and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept easements, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14 as follows: drain and water easement across Open Space Parcel 2, containing 519 square feet as shown on the previously referenced SUBDIVISION PLAN OF LAND IN EASTON, MA and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Secs. 3 and 14, to accept the Deed of a Fee Interest in said Quarry Lane, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 62. STREET ACCEPTANCE - FLINT LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following named street or way, FLINT LANE, as a public way, pursuant to MGL Chapter. 82, from Station 0+00 to Station 4+62.21 as shown on a plan entitled "SUBDIVISION PLAN OF LAND ENTITLED ROCKLAND BAY ESTATES, DRAFTED BY ERNEST W. BRANCH, INC., DATED MAY 16, 1991, as approved by the Planning & Zoning Board on May 10, 1995 and recorded with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 346, Pages 19-27, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Chapter. 40, Secs. 3 and 14, to accept the deed of a fee interest in FLINT LANE or, to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Citizen Petition

ARTICLE 63.

To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

At 9:15 p.m. it was voted to DISSOLVE the Annual Town Meeting. Total voters present – 266.

You are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof one at each meeting house and post office and one at the Olmsted Richardson School Gymnasium and one at the Town Offices, seven days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

Given under our hands this 7th day of May the year Two Thousand Seven.

Colleen A. Corona, Chair
Charles P. King
Irwin M. Cohen
Ellen Barlow
EASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Easton, Mass. May 10, 2007

By virtue hereof and as within directed, I have this day posted attested copies of this Warrant.

John D. Melin, Constable of Easton

A true copy. Attest: *Janet Andrus Linehan*, CMC/CMMC, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF EASTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

WARRANT FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

November 5, 2007

BRISTOL, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton in the County of Bristol:
GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Easton qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet in the Olmsted/Richardson School Gymnasium in said Easton on Monday, the 5th day of November, next, at 7:00 P.M., then and there to act upon the following articles:

Special Town Meeting
Monday, November 5, 2007
Olmsted/Richardson School Gymnasium

The Special Town Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Moderator Richard C. Dailey with quorum present.

The following non-registered voters were voted admittance to the meeting:

DEPARTMENT HEADS: (Per Charter Section 2-4 Shall Attend Town Meeting): David A. Colton, Town Administrator; Janet Andrus Linehan, Town Clerk; Anne Carney, Assistant Assessor; Wendy V. Nightingale, Town Accountant; Teresa DeSilva, Treasurer/Collector; William Simmons, School Superintendent; Wade Saucier, Health Director; Marc Rousseau, Director, Department of Planning & Community Development; Michael Deltano, Information Systems Manager; D. Mark Trivett, Building Inspector; John J. Marsh, Water Superintendent; Maurice Goulet, DPW Operations Manager; Jennifer Hruniak, Recreation Director. OTHER TOWN EMPLOYEES: Michael Green, Ed. D., Assistant Superintendent; Marilyn Gordon, School Business Manager; Annalee Bundy, Library Director; Madeline Holt, Asst. Library Director; Eric Davis, Data Processing; Alice Savage, Staff Planner; Stephanie Danielson, Land Use Agent; Marilyn Lauricella, COA Outreach Coordinator. OTHERS: Gary S. Brackett, Brackett & Lucas, Town Counsel; Luis G. Lopes, Jerome Burke, Patrick Meagher, Southeastern Regional School District. MEDIA: Enterprise: Vicki Downing, Susan Toler; Easton Journal: Jessica Hackett; Channel 9: Wayne Hadley, Kristin Reaney. REPRESENTATIVES: Congressman Stephen Lynch & Jim Gordon, District Office Rep.; State Senator Robert Creedon; State Senator Brian Joyce; State Representative Christine Canavan; State Representative Geraldine Creedon; State Representative David Flynn. REQUESTING ADMITTANCE FOR 11/5/07: Michael Thompson, Advanced Network Installations; John Kissida, CDM, re Article 11, Rick Colon, Verizon; Marion Catrambone, 56 Parker Terrace; Grace McCann, 82 Elise Circle; David Ames, Cambridge, re Frothingham Hall.

ARTICLE 1. PAYMENT OF BILL(S) FROM A PRIOR FISCAL YEAR

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay the cost of bills incurred in a prior fiscal year, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Colleen Corona **moved to appropriate by transfer from free cash the sum of \$463.18 to pay the cost of the following bills incurred in a prior fiscal year:**

Good Samaritan Medical Center	\$139.07 (Fire Department)
W.B. Mason	<u>\$324.11</u> (Land Use Department)
Total	<u>\$463.18</u>

Explanation: The bill from Good Samaritan Medical Center is for fire department medical expenses incurred on 8/11/05. The bill was not received until August 2007. The W.B. Mason bill is from 3/9/07 and nonpayment was simply an oversight related to staffing changeovers in the land use department.

Vote Required to Pass: Nine-Tenths

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 1 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 2. FY 2008 CAPITAL BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by borrowing, or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money for the purpose of meeting the capital budget needs of the Town for fiscal year 2008, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Town Administrator

Selectman John Haederle **moved to appropriate by transfer from free cash the sum of \$90,000 for the purpose of installing fiber optic cable in the Town of Easton to include related hardware, equipment and installation fees.**

Explanation: At this time there is a request for capital funds from the Data Processing Department in the amount of \$90,000 for fiber optic cabling in town. This will replace old telephone (T 1) lines that have become unreliable. Once this fiber is up and running we will be able to cut costs and improve service in the following ways:

- a) *Eliminate all Verizon T1's immediately saving \$12,438 annually.*
- b) *Our current vulnerability to storms will be minimized in that there will no longer be any copper lines to get shorted out on the telephone poles (as the Verizon point-to-point lines have a tendency to do).*
- c) *Increased bandwidth between all buildings giving us the opportunity to start consolidating servers. This will save on equipment and energy costs.*

- d) Increased bandwidth will also speed up user access to remote files and servers thus increasing employee productivity.
- e) All schools will finally be connected with each other as well as the school administration and business offices.
- f) We will have an infrastructure that will allow us to start consolidating phone systems as we migrate to Voice Over IP which has a potential to save as much as \$33,132 annually if we can also free ourselves of some of the Centrex lines.
- g) In time we will be able to install wireless nodes on any building on the fiber optic wide area network which will allow public safety vehicles with laptop computers, which have a wireless function, to securely access the town network. This will be very useful to police and fire and will eliminate the need to call back to their respective dispatch areas in order to look up information.
- h) After the new Comcast license agreement is signed and our future cable studio is in operation, it will also be connected to the fiber optic wide area network which will allow the cable studio to broadcast live from any building on the network.
- i)

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 2 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 3. TRANSFER TO STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be transferred to the stabilization fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Town Administrator

Selectman Chuck King moved to appropriate by transfer from free cash the sum of \$400,000 to be placed in the Stabilization Fund.

Explanation: The town has been certified by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue with \$1,612,338 in free cash. The Town's financial team (Administrator, Accountant, Treasurer/Collector and Assistant Assessor) recommend that 10% or \$161,000 be placed in the stabilization fund. In addition, the Town Administrator recommends that an additional \$122,500 which represents an amount equal to appropriation from free cash proposed in this warrant. This will insure a positive effect to town reserves. However, after discussion with the Finance Committee it was the consensus of the committee and the Town Administrator that a more conservative approach would be in the best interest of the Town. Therefore, an additional 116,500 is recommended. This transfer of \$400,000 will bring the current balance of the fund to \$2,465,260.

Vote Required to Pass: Two-Thirds

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 3 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 4. PURCHASE OF FROTHINGHAM HALL

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, §14 to purchase for municipal purposes, by quitclaim deed, a good and marketable title to the property owned by the Louis A. Frothingham Memorial Corporation known as the Frothingham Hall, consisting of 2.86 acres of land, more or less, with buildings thereon as shown on Assessor's Map U16 as Lots 68B, 82 and 83, located at 15 Barrows Street which properties are recorded at the Bristol North Registry of Deeds in Book 1495, Page 1075, that to fund said purchase including all costs incidental and related thereto to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money, and further that the Board of Selectmen be authorized to enter all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary on behalf of the Town of Easton to effect said purchase, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Irwin Cohen moved that the Board of Selectmen be authorized pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, §14 to purchase for municipal purposes, by quitclaim deed, a good and marketable title to the property owned by the Louis A. Frothingham Memorial Corporation known as the Frothingham Hall, consisting of 2.86 acres of land, more or less, with buildings thereon as shown on Assessor's Map U16 as Lots 68B, 82 and 83, located at 15 Barrows Street which properties are recorded at the Bristol North Registry of Deeds in Book 1495, Page 1075, and to fund said purchase including all costs incidental and related thereto and that \$785,000 be appropriated and that to meet this appropriation unexpended bond proceeds in the amount of \$12,794 be transferred from Fund 30, voted pursuant to Article 7 of the Special Town Meeting on November 22, 1999, \$443 be transferred from Fund 31, voted pursuant to Article 18 of the April 8, 1991 Annual Town Meeting, adjourned to April 29, 1991, \$438,772 be transferred from Fund 32, voted pursuant to Article 23 of the May 20, 2002 Annual Town Meeting, \$23,863 be transferred from Fund 33, voted pursuant to Article 12 of the April 12, 1993 Annual Town Meeting, and \$309,128 be transferred from the Sale of Real Estate Account, and further, that the Board of Selectmen be authorized to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary on behalf of the Town of Easton to effect said purchase.

Explanation: The Hall is owned by the Louis A Frothingham Memorial Corporation and has been used for a variety of civic purposes throughout its history. The corporation desires to sell the Hall in order to fund the maintenance of its other facilities in Town, most notably Frothingham Field. Beyond basic space needs, our community lacks adequate space for programs that benefit young and old alike. The town has been

struggling for years to provide senior citizens with a center for activity and that many complain that space for indoor recreation programs is limited.

The Town is in need of facilities to support the Council on Aging and the Recreation Department. Their offices in Town Hall are inadequate with no space for storage of recreation equipment or for offering programs. The Hall would be used as a multi-purpose community center to meet some needs of the Recreation Department and the Council on aging. A further benefit is to free up some space in the Town Offices to relieve the overcrowding of other departments.

There were two appraisals completed this year. The first by the sellers appraiser values the property at \$785,000 and the second by the Town's appraiser values the property at \$705,000.

Purchasing Frothingham Hall for use as a multi-service center is a solid, if modest, step in an affirmative direction for the following reasons:

- It is relatively inexpensive space. At \$750,000 (estimate based on the appraisals, but not yet negotiated) it will cost \$115.38 per square foot to purchase. New construction cost under public bid laws exceeds \$200 per square foot.
- It is useable (not ideal) now in its present condition, without renovation, as proven by its current use as a library.
- It is available, and the Town has the cash on hand to purchase the building without borrowing.
- The source of funds cannot be used for operating budgets so this has no impact on balancing this or any future budget.
- The Hall will permanently alleviate overcrowding at the Town Offices.
- The Hall will provide office storage and program space for people of all ages in our Town.
- The purchase preserves an important piece of Easton's history.

Renovations will be needed to optimize the utility of the space. For example, the electrical, plumbing, and heating systems should be upgraded along with the kitchen and bathrooms. To that end, the following steps have been taken:

1. Secured the commitment of the Southeastern Regional School to provide assistance in the renovation project with electrical, plumbing, and carpentry work
2. Initiated discussions with the Municipal Building Committee through Chairman Langway to secure the involvement of the committee in the design and construction process

These steps insure that the project will truly be a community project involving many hands. The Municipal Building Committee will see that there is significant community involvement in the project and that the scope of work is appropriate to the need and the Town's resources. Town Meeting will be asked to fund any renovation project at a future Town Meeting. Even with a probable renovation cost of approximately \$575,000, the total cost per square foot (including purchase price) of \$203 compares favorably with current pricing for new construction.

Vote Required to Pass: Two-Thirds
Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended
Finance Committee Recommendation: Does Not Recommend

ARTICLE 4 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 5. FROTHINGHAM HALL SCHEMATIC DESIGN

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds \$15,000 to prepare schematic design plans for renovations to Frothingham Hall, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Ellen Barlow **moved to appropriate by transfer from the Sale of Real Estate Account the sum of \$15,000 to prepare schematic design plans for renovations to Frothingham Hall.**

Explanation: It is anticipated that the Hall will require some renovation to make it fully compliant to the Americans with Disabilities Act and to bring electrical and mechanical systems up to code. Approval to proceed to final design and construct any renovations will be necessary at a future Town Meeting.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority
Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended
Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommends (With the approval of Article 4 –prudent to recommend)

ARTICLE 5 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 6. AMENDMENT OF NONCRIMINAL DISPOSITION OF VIOLATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 50 of the Code of the Town of Easton, Appendix A, to add to the list of those bylaws subject to noncriminal disposition the following:

25. Building Demolition Permit Review (Chapter 114)
Penalty: \$300.00 per day
Enforcing Agent: Easton Historical Commission and Police

or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Historical Commission

Selectman: John Haederle **moved that the Town vote to amend Chapter 50 of the Code of the Town of Easton, Appendix A, to add to the list of those bylaws subject to non-criminal disposition the following:**

25. Building Demolition Permit Review (Chapter 114)

Penalty: \$300.00 per day

Enforcing Agent: Easton Historical Commission and Police

Explanation: At the May 23, 2007 Annual Town Meeting, Article 22 was approved which amended Chapter 114 of the Easton Town Code, Building Demolition Permit Review, to add §114-7, Enforcement and Remedies, providing that "[a]ny owner of a building demolished without first obtaining a demolition permit in accordance with the provisions of this bylaw shall be subject to a fine of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00)." However, before the Easton Historical Commission can impose such fines, Chapter 114 must also be added to the list of bylaws that may be enforced pursuant to the noncriminal disposition procedure of M.G.L. Chapter 40, §21D as adopted by the Town of Easton and set forth in Chapter 50 of the Code.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: N/A

ARTICLE 6 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 7. REPEAL OF USE OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY BYLAW

To see if the Town will vote to repeal Article IV of Chapter 202, Use of Rights-of-Way, of the Easton Town Code in its entirety.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Colleen Corona moved that the Town vote to repeal Article IV of Chapter 202, Use of Rights-of-Way, of the Easton Town Code in its entirety.

Explanation: The Town's by law is not consistent with section 21 of chapter 166 of the Massachusetts General Laws ("Chapter 166") which gives utility companies, including telecommunications firms like Verizon, a right to place facilities on public ways throughout Massachusetts, subject only to the limitation that such placement does not "incommode the public use of public ways." Section 22 of that Chapter provides that after conducting a public hearing, the Board of Selectmen may approve locations for the construction of facilities on public ways permitted under Section 21, and Section 25 allows it to establish reasonable regulations requiring the filing of plans identifying the locations and regulating the construction and maintenance of underground conduits, cables and wires.

While local governments are generally entitled to charge fees to cover their reasonable expenses incurred in exercising this authority, it is well established under Massachusetts law that those fees are permissible only if they are limited to the level of costs a municipality incurs in administering the location-approval process. The repeal of Chapter 202 Article IV does not affect the Town's ability to permit and control the

issuance of permits to utility companies for work in the public way as that will remain regulated by Chapter 202 Article II, Street Opening and Article III, Public Works Construction License.

The practical effect is that Verizon will not install fiber optics in Easton with this by-law in place. Repeal will pave the way for competition in cable television, and high speed internet access services to Easton residents.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 7 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 8. ADOPTION OF CHAPTER 77 OF THE ACTS OF 2005

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2005, entitled "An Act Further Regulating Salaries of Public Employees Serving in the Armed Forces of the United States," which amends Chapter 137 of the Acts of 2003 by replacing the second sentence of Section 1 with the following two sentences: An employee eligible under this section shall be paid his/her regular base salary as a public employee for each pay period of military leave of absence after September 11, 2001, reduced by any amount received from the United States as base pay for military service preformed during the same pay period. For purposes of this section, base pay shall not include any allowances, overtime pay, shift differential pay, hazardous duty pay or any other additional compensation received for military service; and replacing Section 21 with the following: Section 1 shall expire on September 11, 2008, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Chuck King **moved that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2005, entitled "An Act Further Regulating Salaries of Public Employees Serving in the Armed Forces of the United States."**

Explanation: The Town of Easton accepted Chapter 137 of the Acts of 2003 which required the town to compensate its employees who are called to active serve with the U.S. armed forces after September 11, 2001 by continuing to pay the employee's regular base salary reduced by the base pay received for military service. Under Chapter 137 a public employee's base pay received for military service was calculated by including any "overtime pay, shift differential pay, hazardous duty pay or any other additional compensation". Chapter 77 amends Chapter 137 by redefining and clarifying the way that military base pay is to be calculated and then deducted from an employee's regular base salary by excluding "overtime pay . . . or any other additional compensation received for military service". This amount by which the town reduces the employee's regular base salary is therefore decreased and the town's contribution is increased. Additionally, Section 1 of Chapter 77 extends this benefit until September 11, 2008. Chapter 77 does not apply to active duty for training in the army national guard, air national guard or armed forces reservist.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority
Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended
Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 8 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 9. ADOPTION OF MGL CHAPTER 33, SECTION 59

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 33, Section 59 which provides that any employee of the town shall be entitled, during the time of his service in the armed forces of the commonwealth, under section thirty-eight, forty, forty-one, forty-two or sixty, or during his/her annual tour of duty of not exceeding 34 days in any state fiscal year and not exceeding 17 days in any federal fiscal year as a member of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States, to receive pay therefore, without loss of his/her ordinary remuneration as an employee of the town, and shall also be entitled to the same leaves of absence or vacation with pay given to other like employees or officials, or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Irwin Cohen moved that the Town vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 33, Section 59.

Explanation: Chapter 33, section 59 applies to those public employees who are called to active duty on behalf of the Commonwealth when called by the Governor for emergency situations, riots, etc., and when performing their annual tour of duty and participating in active duty training in the army national guard, air national guard or armed forces reservist. Acceptance thereof will ensure that public employee continue to be paid for this time.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority
Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended
Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 9 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 10. FUNDING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL, SURVEY AND CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES AT 300 FOUNDRY STREET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate and transfer from available funds the sum of \$32,500 to fund a contract for environmental, survey and civil engineering services relative to the preparation of a preliminary subdivision of property located at 300 Foundry Street with an Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Determination, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman Ellen Barlow moved to appropriate by transfer from free cash the sum of \$32,500 for the purpose of funding a contract for environmental, survey and civil engineering services relative to the preparation of a preliminary subdivision of property located at 300 Foundry Street with an Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Determination.

Explanation: On February 8, 2007, Special Town Meeting authorized the Board of Selectmen to sell 15.74 acres of Town owned land located at 300 Foundry Street. This tract of land includes large wetland areas. It is unclear as to how many residential lots could be developed on the property. With past efforts to sell the property, the biggest constraint to a bidder has been the uncertainty with permitting. If the Town did preliminary work packaging the land with some of the permits and assurances as to the number of potential lots, it would be easier for the Board of Selectmen to sell the land and obtain a better price.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

ARTICLE 10 TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 11. FINAL DESIGNS FOR VALENTINE MUSCATO STADIUM

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds, \$84,000 for the preparation of final designs, plans and specifications for the replacement of the spectator seating and press box at the Valentine Muscato Stadium to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and for future improvements to the track and field, or take any action in relation thereto.

Submitted by School Committee

Selectman Colleen Corona moved to appropriate by transfer from the Sale of Real Estate Account the sum of \$84,000 for the preparation of final designs, plans and specifications for the replacement of the spectator seating and press box at the Valentine Muscato Stadium to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and for future improvements to the track and field.

Explanation: The bleachers and press box at the Valentine Muscato Stadium must be made ADA compliant. Final designs and plans and construction documents are needed so that such work can begin as soon as possible. The plans will also include track and field improvements to ensure that the replacement bleachers are located such that future improvements to the track and field can be accommodated.

Vote Required to Pass: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

School Committee: Recommended

ARTICLE 11 TOWN MEETING ACTION: VOTED.

During the discussion of Article 11, Moderator Dailey informed the voters of the availability of recycling bins to place unwanted Warrants, etc.

At 8:14 p.m., the Special Town Meeting was DISSOLVED. Total Voters Present – 253.

A true record. Attest:

Janet Andrus Linehan

Janet Andrus Linehan, CMC/CMMC
Town Clerk

AT YOUR SERVICE

Ames Free Library	508-238-2000
Animal Control Officer	508-230-3353
Assessors	508-230-0520
Board of Appeals	508-230-0590
Board of Health	508-230-0620
Board of Selectmen	508-230-0501
Collector	508-230-0610
Conservation Commission	508-230-0640
Council on Aging	508-230-0540
Department of Public Works	508-230-0800
Fire Department	508-230-3311
Food Pantry	508-230-0670
Housing Authority	508-238-4747
Inspectional Services	508-230-0580
Planning & Community Development	508-230-0630
Planning Board	508-230-0630
Police Department	508-230-3322
Recreation Department	508-230-0650
Town Accountant	508-230-0560
Town Administrator	508-230-0510
Town Clerk	508-230-0530
Treasurer	508-230-0600
Veterans Services Department	508-230-0550
Water Division	508-230-0850
Superintendent of Schools	508-230-3202
Center School	508-230-3233
East Junior High School	508-230-3222
F.L. Olmsted School	508-320-3205
H.H. Richardson School	508-230-3227
Moreau Hall	508-230-3235
Oliver Ames High School	508-230-3210
Parkview School	508-230-3230

**EASTON EMERGENCY
POLICE
FIRE
MUNICIPAL AMBULANCE**

DIAL 911